Crime — 1919.

SIX MONTHS HARD LABOR GIVEN NEGRO.

MONTGOMERY ALA. ADVERTISER
JANUARY 23, 1919

In Recorders Court Wednesday Parker Bell was given six months hard labor for violation of the prohibition laws. Bell was found Tuesday evening with twelve quarts of liquor in a suit case only two blocks from police headquarters and was captured by Policeman Nichols and Johnson, Charlie Payne who was with Bell, when he was found with the liquor was given a fine of fifty dollars and costs.

Alice McCall, a negress was sentenced to four months hard labor for conducting a disorderly house, John Gray, Barney Miller and Walter Ross one a white boy, the other negroes were fined each 5 dollars for loafing. Other cases on the docket were continued until Thursday evenings session of the recorder's court.

RICHMOND VA JOURNAL
JANUARY 24, 1919

Sarah Flippen, colored, was dismissed from the charge of cutting Curtis James. She stated that she had acted in self-defense in wielding a pocket knife against James.

Case against J. W. Perkins, charged with stealing $52.77 from J. B. Mosby, was continued until February.

RICHMOND VA JOURNAL
JANUARY 24, 1919

Case against P. Bentley, colored, charged with stealing jewelry valued at $75, the property of the American Railway & Express Company, went over until January 30.

RICHMOND VA JOURNAL
JANUARY 24, 1919

Jerry Smith, colored, charged with violating a city ordinance governing the public sale of merchandise, was fined $10.

Police and Courts

MACON GA TELEGRAPH
JANUARY 25, 1919

Three negroes were tried yesterday morning before the recorder on charges of loitering. The negroes gave their names as Edgar Houser, Laura Jackson and Fletcher May Elizabeth Ponder. The first two were fined $15 and May Elizabeth's case will be heard today.

• • •

A negro giving his name as Frank Cook said yesterday that he was saved from falling into a boiling vat at the Georgia Veneering plant by two white men who caught him when another negro, who said his name was John Hunter, struck him.

• • •

A man giving his name as H. H. Lanier was fined $2.50 yesterday morning in the recorder's court on charges of shooting in the city. Call Officer Homer Hardison made the case.

• • •

City court cases for the first and second Monday in February will be set by Judge DuPont Guerry at a meeting of the Macon Bar Asociation in the courtroom this morning at 10 o'clock. The jury has been excused until February when the hearing of criminal cases will be resumed.

• • •

Two negroes who said their names were Pete Jones and Charlie Gosby were arrested yesterday by Call Officer Hardison on charges of giving short measure. The negroes have been selling vegetables on the streets and are alleged to have used a measure supposed to be one peck, but which the police claim is too small.

• • •

Five persons were arrested on charges of disorderly conduct and three were arrested for loitering yesterday by the police.

CRIME HERE AND ELSEWHERE.

The Montgomery Advertiser 1-23-19

Killings are picking up again, now that the war is out of the minds of people. Practically every large city in this country is the scene of one or more violent crimes committed in recent weeks.

However, barring the occasional outbreak of old gang feuds and lynchings we have little in this country suggestive of organized violence as between class and class.

In Poland, Russia, Turkey and in some other countries there have been revolting spectacles of wholesale slaughter. In revolutionary Austria-Hungary there has been slaughter, and likewise in Germany. There is nothing in the history of our country quite analagous to these outbreaks.

The Lord condemned him who said in his prayer that he was grateful for not being as other men. But the Lord will not condemn Americans for the satisfaction they must feel on perceiving that wholesale massacre, by natives of America, is not among popular causes of worry.

Do we, in Montgomery, realize what it means to us to live in a quiet, orderly community such as this has always been? Here we have our friendships and petty prejudices. We have little of violent hatred in our hearts. We could never tolerate a massacre. We, as Anglo-Saxons, could never permit a sustained irruption of lawlessness. We walk in peace and safety through the streets at all hours of the night, having no fear that in our absence fiends may swoop down upon our unprotected loved ones lying asleep in our homes. Do we appreciate the blessings that are ours?

TEASLEY SUBMITS JUVENILE COURT REPORT FOR 1918

The Montgomery Advertiser 1-23-19

Judge Commends Court's Work to Board of Revenue of Montgomery County

Charles B. Teasley, Judge of the Juvenile Court submitted to the County Board of Revenue, Monday, a report of the Juvenile Court of Montgomery county for the year ending December 31, 1918. Accompanying this report was the following communication from Judge Teasley.

"Permit me to call your attention to the large increase in the number

FEW ALABAMA PRISONERS REACH PENITENTIARY, SAYS DR. ANDREWS

The Montgomery Advertiser 1-26-19

Prison Inspector's Report Shows Jails Send Less Than 4 Per Cent of Inmates to Penitentiary—Child Labor Legislation Is Urged

Whether the fee system is responsible or not, only a very small per cent of the prisoners committed to Alabama jails in the last four years have been sent to the penitentiary. This is disclosed by the be-enniel report of Dr. Glenn Andrews, state prison inspector, when compared with the quadrennial report of the state convict department. The former's report came from the printer Tuesday and is an illuminating document.

It shows that during the four years ending with 1918, there was a total of 84,605 prisoners in Alabama jails, while during the same periods the convict department report shows that only 3,348 of these prisoners were sent to the penitentiary, leaving 81,257 prisoners who were committed to the jails but were released. Perhaps quite a number of them were county prisoners who were convicted of misdemeanors.

The number of prisoners in Alabama jails in the last four years follows: 27,042 for 1915; 24,164 for 1916; 20,226 for 1917; and 16,456 for 1918.

Cost of Feeding Decreases

The cost of feeding prisoners in Alabama jails has decreased from $203,712.70 in the years 1914-15 to $89,337,-15 for the year, 1917-18. For 1915-16, the cost was $168,504.20, and for 1916-17, it was $141,420.55.

In 1915-16, therefore the reduction was $35,208.50, or 17.3 per cent; in 1916-17, the reduction amounted to $27,083.65, or 16.1 per cent; and in 1917-18 there was a renuction of $52,088.50, or 36.8 per cent.

Fewer Prisoners in Jails

"It is a noticeable fact that there has been a marked decrease in the number of prisoners confined during this period of time in practically all the jails of the State," says Dr. Andrews referring to the last two years. "Several reasons are assigned for this, viz: prohibition, improved methods of court procedure, emigration of a large number of negroes, the army draft, enforcement of the vagrancy laws thus dispelling idleness farmers and others making bonds for prisoners in order to procure their labor, etc. This naturally leads to a marked decrease in the cost of the state for feeding prisoners.

"During the time covered by this report it is gratifying to be able to state that the sanitary condition of the jails generally has been found better than ever before. It has, however, been necessary to criticise a number of the sheriffs for their lack of attention to the jails."

The report shows that nuring the fiscal year ending September 30, 1918, 20 deaths occurred in the Alabama jails, while during the preceding year there were 18 deaths. During the fiscal year ending September 30, 1918, there were 69 escapes from jails, and 73 during the preceding year.

Report on Empty Jails.

An interesting phase of the report shows that the number of days that various jails have been empty during the period covered by the report. This data follows: Autauga, 60; Bibb, 25 Blount, 41; Butler, 67; Cherokee, 43 Choctaw, 240; Clarke, 10; Cleburne 124; Coffee, 17; Coosa,, 49; Covington, 20; Crenshaw, 8; Cullman, 81; Escambin, 12 Geneva, 3; Greene 59; Henry 12; Houston, 13; Jackson, 1; Lamar, 123; Limestone, 9; Lowndes, 25; Marion, 106; Monroe, 26; Perry, 4; Pickens, 13; Pike, 3; Russell, 93; St. Clair, No. 1, 49; St. Clair No. 2, 157; Tallapoosa, 34; Washington, 105; Winston, 252.

A large section is devoted to a discussion child labor. The present law on that subject, Dr. Andrews, says, has not proved a perfect instrument," and has not afforded the protection it was designed to afford because of the many changes made in the original bill after its introduction and before its final passage by the Legislature" of 1915. "And again," he says, "there has been the lack of a sufficient number of inspectors and an adequate office force necessary to insure an efficient enforcement of the law."

Suggests Child Labor Laws

Dr. Annrews makes the following child labor recommendations for legislation:

"1. A clause prohibiting employment in any occupation of children under 16 years of age during school hours in order to make the age limit in the child labor law correspondend to the age limit in the compulsory education law.

"2. An eight-hour day, forty-eight hour week, in any ocupation for all chilnren under 16 years of age.

"3. A clause authorizing the inspector to investigate the evidence of age upon which a work permit was issued and to cancel it if illegal or insufficient evidence has been accepted.

"4. A clause requiring issuing officers to give children claiming to be 16 years of age or over, age certificateswhen employers request the same.

"5. Omission of the clause requiring children between 14 and 16 years of age working in mills and factories to attend school eight weeks each year.

"6. Raising of educational requirement for work permits sixty days school attendance during previous year, to completion of the fourth grade.

"7. The clause permitting children between 12 and 14 years of age to work in offices and mercantile establishments in cities or towns fewer than 25,000 population should be stricken out, establishing 14 years of age as a requirement before permit to work is issued. In case the age limit between 12 and 14 years is retained, remove the restriction from cities of 25,000 population or over making the law operative uniformly throughout the State, and requiring issuance of vacation permits, during the summer vacation of schools, based on same requirements as regular permits except as to educational qualifications.

"8. Issuance of permits in duplicate —one for employer, and one for the state inspector.

"9. Extension of authority to take up newsboy badges to school superintendents or other issuing officer issuing them; and authorizing inspectors to show cause why they should be taken up. To provide means for procuring said badges.

"10. Two anditional inspectors and sufficient clerical help."

Comppulsory Education Amendments

So that there will be no conflict, Dr. Andrews recommends the following amendments to the compulsory education law:

"1. The maximum compulsory school attendance age limit should be raised from 15 to 16 years and the exemptions should be abolished as there are no exemptions in the child labor law permitting the employment of children under 14 during the school year.

"2. Section 9 of the compulsory education law of 1915 requires a child between 8 and 15 who is employed during school hours to have a special permit from the board of education. Under the child labor law no child may be employed at any time until he is 14, and between 14 and 16 must have a work permit issued by the superintendent of schools. The permit called for in the compulsory enucation law is an unnecessary duplication and should be stricken out."

back to his passengers, these white men say that one of them took the gun from the other and when DeWitt raised his arms to catch a breath of air, using their own words, "when he went to stretch himself," the gun was placed behind his head and his brains blown out. They drug him from the car they said down the side of the hill and took from his pockets thirty odd dollars. What defense can they offer? What else could they have done to have made themselves amenable to the law? Why should a man be given a life sentence for such a murder? Under what reason could we have a mistrial?

Is it that a race man canot be guilty of breaking a law written by a member of his race? When another race is involved Some of these crimes are first degree murders.

MACON GA. TELEGRAPH
JANUARY 14, 1919

John Lee Parker, colored, adultery, nolle prossed.

Police and Courts

MACON GA. TELEGRAPH
FEBRUARY 6, 1919

Two Greeks giving their names as Jim Tropos and Grozory Natsauri were charged yesterday by the police with violating the city ordinance which allows the use of certain space on the sidewalk for the display of merchandise.

* * *

Cases were made yesterday by the police against persons giving their names as Odessa Jaker and Kattie Jones, who are charged with loitering and violating the idling ordinance.

* * *

A negro giving his name as Will Davis was tried yesterday morning in the recorder's court on charges of disorderly conduct. The negro was arrested by Call Officer Harper when he refused to pay his fare on a stret car. The negro claimed he had paid his fare and the case was dismissed.

* * *

Detectives Evans and Stevens arrested a negro giving his name as Spencer Adams early yesterday morning at No. 3 Willingham row. The negro went up a chimney when the officers entered the house, but his toe slipped and he slid back down. A negress giving her name as Alpha Pinkerton was also arrested and the two negroes were held by the recorder for the state courts on charges of violating the anti-vice law.

WANTS NEGRO POOL ROOMS CLOSED

The Birmingham News 12-3-19

By W. L. PORTER.

What is thought to be one of the most narrow steps yet taken by Miss Birmingham, Alas, showed its head Sunday morning in an article, appearing in The Birmingham Age-Herald capped, "Taylor Orders Negro Pool Rooms Closed;" in which it is clearly shown that it was the initial step to closing every Negro Pool Room and Dance Hall in the City. The article follows:

"The first step towards closing the Negro Pool Rooms and Dance Halls of this city, was made yesterday, when Commissioner John H. Taylor ordered Chief of Detectives, George Lyons, to close a Pool Room at Thirty-Fourth Street and Twenty-Ninth Avenue, and a Dance Hall at 1717½ Third Avenue, and to place the proprietors under arrest.

"The arrests were made and it is understood that Commissioner Taylor intends to bring the matter before the Commission tomorrow and ask that a resolution be adopted that would provide that every Negro Pool Room and Dance Hall within the city be closed."

This article brought about much discussion among some of the prominent Negro business men of the city and if put into effect will only bear out the age old saying: "Nothing more is cared for the Negro than his labor as a slave."

It is not the policy of good thinking Colored people to shrink from a movement that means the destruction of vice and all manner of evil practices but it is well worth while to see and know that the good of the Negro Race does not have its privileges abolished simply for the want of keeping the Negro in a state of humiliation, as can be seen through the narrow lane of this article. If this movement is made law, how long will it be before Negroes will be told what they shall wear and what they shall not. How long will it be before they are told what they shall eat and what they shall not eat? It is reassuring that if this law is inacted upon white and Colored amusement halls alike much good will be the outcome, but where it falls only upon the black man, there can be nothing more than a streak of prejudice shown, and prejudice is the seed of feelings. Said a prominent Colored man when speaking of the proposed order.

Check The Crime Wave

The Birmingham News 12-3-19

There is too much crime of a degenerate nature in our country today, No crime is hardly excusable in civilized and prosperous America, and the crime that we read of day after day is such as would not be tolerated by any civilized people. Whether we need more officers and better officers or better people is a question. It may be that too many liberties have been exercised by individuals and because of this they have cultivated the wrong idea and lost respect for individuals and the law.

Birmingham is no doubt the greatest city in the South. Not that it has more people, but it has more opportunity and more resources. It has a rugged, stubborn and industrious citizenry that should in the next twenty years make Birmingham the greatest city on the Americ continent.

Birmingham must stop its crime wave. Birmingham must find through its citizens and officers these pickpackets, these robbers, and Birmingham and Jefferson County must hang about a half dozen of its murderers about every thirty days, and Birmingham will proceed to develop morally as well as physically and too in substantial and perpeutal way.

Birmingham and Jefferson County must refuse now and for ever to license by sanction any citizen, white or black, to cary a pistol on the highways of this great city and county Birmingham authorities know that to a large degree every motorman and conductor employed by the Birmingham Railway, Light and Power Company are carrying pistols. In other words, if Birmingham authorities do not know it, there is hardly any other group of citizens in their fix. It is alarming when a decent man gets on the car and is uneasy from the time he boards the car until the time he puts his foot on the sofl. And why? Because his conductor, the man who is charged with the duty of seeing him safe to his destination, moves about in that car with a revolver in his pocket, and likewise men all about him with guns in their pockets. The editor of this publication has never seen it necessary for men who are not looking for criminals and who are not criminals themselves to be armed with revolvers, and certainly a conductor and motorman of a common carier does not need a pistol and neither do their passengers need them, unless they be licensed by authority. This publication wants to see all men put up their weapons, white men and black men. These are no times for the displaying of firearms, or even the careless handling of the same. This is a period when every bit of our energy should be used for the advancement of the human cause when our physical strength, when our mental strength when our entire being should be put forward to advance the principles here that our soldiers fought to maintain overseas.

Why should southern white men and southern colored men hate each other, if they do? Have they not made more sacrifice than any other people in America? Did the Negro not work two hundred and fifty years in the South for his raiment and food? Did he not get his first impulse of human civilization in the South? Can the white man of the South forget his faithfulness and a service well rendered during these two hundred and fifty years and during the Civil war? Can he forget that it was the black man who fought with him, that died with him? Doesn't he know, and remember now, that the Negro is the most faithful and trusted friend he has in the South today Has he not labored well and faithfully since the Civil war to make the South a decent place to live in? The white man and the black man of the South must lock hands together, forgetting the past, noting the present, with a firmer hope for the future. These are days of unity, not strife and jealousy. These are no times to discuss the superior quality; it will take care of itself if let alone. These are no times to discuss who are the superiors, that is established, and as distinct as night is different from day. Station in life has much to do with it, but the man who renders service, which service reaches the greater number of needy people, he is the superior man; he is the master and the leader.

White men in Birmingham and Alabama must be willing and must convict more men for the murder of Negroes than they have been willing to do in the past. The bigger the man who comits a lynching or who comits a rape, the quicker his neck should be broken ,and with as little ceremony as possible.

A few cases in point? A few months ago in this county a Negro shot and killed another Negro man while he was on his knees, it is charged, begging him not to shoot. He was locked up in a drunken stupor, it is charged, and he is now out under bond, the case having been appealed after the jury gave him a verdict of guilty and five years in the mines.

Just this week in Birmingham a white man was charged with the killing of a young colored man, DeWitt Fletcher. In fact, DeWitt's murder was accomplished by two white men —one now in jail,, sentenced to life imprisonment, but is awaiting the decision of the Supreme Court, and the other had a mistrial this week. The crime was committed more than a year ago, and these men have been laying in the county jail practically ever since. Now here is what they stated and it has not been denied, even until this good day: They hired the Negro chauffeur to drive them around the city until a late hour in the night; they then ordered the driver to take them to Ensley and in lonely spot, dark, in the woods, they ordered him to stop the car. He obeyed their orders, and while seated at the steering wheel with his left on the race and in line with the recent proffer to Council to aid in bettering conditions they promise to take every possible means to rid the valley of the undesirables from among those who were imported from the South during the labor shortage.

The committee in charge of the meeting is composed of Henry Bledsoe, Harry Malsom, D. J. Hill and T. H. Diller.

COLORED CITIZENS TO COMBAT CRIME

SHARON PA. HERALD
FEBRUARY 13, 1919

Law abiding negro citizens of Sharon and the valley are going to do everything in their power to drive out the negro criminals who have been responsible for numerous crimes.

To that end they have called a mass meeting of the respectable negroes of the district to be held in the Council chamber at the City Building at 8 o'clock Friday night. They are much concerned over the stigma that this lawless element has

DALLAS COUNTY HAS SIGNED CONTRACT TO FARM OUT CONVICTS

The Montgomery Advertiser 2-13-19

Lumber Co. to Have Their Use—Burglar's Preliminary Delayed

Selma Bureau
Of The Advertiser
Telephone 77.

Dallas county convicts will be leased to the Vredenburgh Lumber Company the contract to begin Feb. 15, it was decided at a meeting of the Board of Revenue held this morning This will remove all convict labor from the road of Dallas county, and will institute instead the employment of hands and the working of the roads under contract. The new plan is advocated by Judge W. M. Vaughan, as a retrenchment measure.

While the board has made its decision relatives to the disposal of the convicts, instituting the lease system again in this county, many important matters relatives to the proper maintenance of the miles of good roads in Dallas county will have to be gone into. A special meeting of the board has been called for Friday, to work out plans. It is said that the new plan will call for the retaining of the present road supervisor, H. B. Stringer, as Road Superintendent.

At present there are only a small number of convicts in the county.

Rev. Cary Gamble Visiting Brother.

200 Alleged Loafers Placed Under Arrest In Two Weeks' Time

The Birmingham News

Two weeks ago Patrolman O. R. Jones and W. D. Turner, of the city police force, were detailed as plain clothes men to round up the vagrants and loafers. Since that time they have made about two hundred arrests and most of the prisoners were convicted in the recorder's court and sentenced to the stockade.

The two officers, by diligence and hard work, not only succeeded in rounding up a large number of loafers, but the raids they made caused hundreds of other idlers to go to work. The officers have been highly complimented by the recorder and the chief of police for the good work they have done. They are still on the job.

Crime—1919.

Piano Company Manager Assaults Colored Lady

The East Tennessean 10—30—19.

Central Avenue Shamed Over Gay Street Occurance. Police Arrest Helpless Victim of White Manager's Blows.--Fined In Judge Greer's Court.--Race Should Boycott Cable Piano Company

Knoxville's Negro citizenship is thoroughly indignant over the brutal treatment accorded Mrs. Janie Empy, highly respected colored lady, at the hands of L. C. Lamb, white, manager of the Cable Piano Company, a Gay street concern patronized by many members of the colored race in this section.

Following a controversy over the transfer of title of a piano which Mrs. Empy had purchased from the piano company, which occurred at the store on last Tuesday morning near eleven o'clock the colored lady questioned the manager's fairness in the matter which resulted in his branding her as a d--- b----. She immediately left the store only to be followed by the irate manager who ran after the defenseless and helpless colored woman until he overtook her across the street from his place of business and **there laying hold on her, struck her with such force as to knock her hat from her head and with his feet tread it into the ground.**

No Assistance Offered Lady

A large crowd congregated during the excitement and not one person offered to even attempt to dissude the white manager who weighs fully two hundred pounds, from his continued assault to the unoffending colored woman.

Police Arrest Lady

With an idea of shifting the blame from himself, and only after the physical violence meted out to the lady was insufficient to gratify his brutality toward the defenseless colored woman, the manager sent in a hurried call for "protection" from police headquarters. Patrolmen Ross Hines and Thos. Moore, who were patrolling that beat, arrived on the scene and instead of arresting the white man who had assauted the lady, they placed her under arrest and escorted her to the city jail where her bond was signed shortly after by George W. McDade, Jr., a local colored bondsman.

Judge Greer Imposes Fine

When the case was called in city court on Tuesday afternoon, Mrs. Empy was represented by Attorneys Yardley, Huff and McDade. After hearing the evidence as outlined above, Judge John L. Greer, recently appointed to that office by the recently elected city commissioners, imposed a fine of ten dollars on the lady.

The many members of the race who had looked upon the appointment of Judge Greer with interest, and had hoped that he would rule in his court with justice, because of the large number of Negroes who come before him, were sadly disappointed in this case due to the apparent flagrant miscarriage of justice.

Had All Protection On His Side

Had Mrs. Empy become "offensive" as is claimed by Manager Lamb, there was every course to pursue that would have been more appropriate than physical violence toward the defenseless woman. As was shown by the result of the trial in the city court, he had the law and the protection that the law affords on his side and for him to employ such tactics as were employed is perfectly unexcusable and indefensible.

As one of the leading business mer of the city, operating a business that is patronized largely by colored people, if he should resort to such action, what might be expected from the so-called "hoodlum" element.

Secures Peace Warrant

Following the action of the city court in imposing a fine upon the lady, Manager Lamb went before Esq. William Sellers and had issued a peace warrant, charging in the warrant that Mrs. Empy had made the threat that she would have her husband take the matter of his assaulting her up. Esq. Sellers did not require bond in the case stating that ere were no apparent grounds for ch.

A warrant charging assault was secured before Esq. Sellers for the white manager and resulted in his being bound over to the November term of criminal court.

Race Should Boycott Concern

The only recourse for the colored people in this instance is a complete boycott of this concern, with an idea of manifesting their indignation of the action of the white manager. Even though a piano has been purchased and a goodly sum paid on the same, the manager should be called and told to take the piano from the home. Showing the race's distaste for such action on the part of any concern, is worth more than the payment of several hundred dollars, that might have been paid on a piano or a number of pianos.

There are men engaged in business in the city of Knoxville who have high enough regard for womanhood, black or white, to cause them to refrain from resorting to physical violence, and the race should seek them in giving their patronage.

JUDGE FINES NEGRO FOR CARRYING PISTOL

The Montgomery Advertiser 10—29—19.

Nature of Case Prevents Giving Defendant Limit of Law, Says Recorder

Henry Singleton, a negro, was fined $50 and costs Tuesday, on the charge of carrying a concealed pistol. Judge Brassell, of the recorder's court, explained after the sentence was given that it was his policy to give the limit of the law in such cases, $100 and costs, but owing to circumstances of the particular case he would not go the limit.

The defendant was in the employ of Mr. Kent, who testified that it was his pistol the defendant had when he was arrested, and that he told the defendant to bring the pistol from the house to the store. Unthoughtedly the defendant placed the pistol in his pocket, and was arrested on suspicion by the officers and searched when the pistol was found. It was shown, however, that the defendant was not wanted on the charge of which he was suspected. "Well", said the judge, "It is a violation of the law to carry a pistol concealed under any circumstances in Montgomery, and were it not for the statement of Mr. Kent I would fine you the limit in this case."

Savannah Ford, a negro woman, was charged with selling a pint of white corn liquor to another negro woman for $3. Officers swore they saw the transaction, and took the liquor away fro mthe purchaser. The liquor was offered in evidence. Judge Brassell fined her $50 and cost, telling her that if she had been a man he would have given her the limit. She appealed the case to the city court and made an appeal bond in the sum of $300.

F. P. Carter, T. J. Kemell, Russell Goodyear, and Herbert Johnson, all young white men, who were arrested Tuesday morning by G. B. Johnson, special agent for the Lousivlle and Nashville Railroad o nthe charge of stealing a ride on a train on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad all plead guilty, and each was fined $2 and cost. The young men were all from northern states

Several other cases, but of a minor nature, were disposed of by Judge Brassell at the Tuesday afternoon session of the recorders' court.

NINE HOMICIDES RECORD FOR SEPT.

BIRMINGHAM ALA AGE HERALD OCTOBER 8, 1919

Coroner George A. Hogan Files Report, Showing 54 Deaths Investigated

The coroner's report, issued by Dr. George A. Hogan, for the past month shows that 54 deaths were investigated by his office. Of the total number 20 were white and 34 negroes. Of these 23 died a natural death, these sudden deaths being mostly due to heart failure. Accidents took toll of 21 lives during the month. Homicides totalled nine, for the most part negro shootings. There was only one suicide in the whole county last month.

FLOGGING CRIMINALS.

Atlanta Constitution

On the presentments of the Fulton county grand jury, recently made public, is a notation with reference to the treatment of chain-gang convicts, to the effect that "we were pleased to learn from the well-kept records that the number of whippings has been very greatly decreased." 11—6—19.

So far as it goes this is encouraging, in that it indicates progress away from a custom and a practice that is inhuman and barbarous.

It is good that "the number of whippings has been very greatly decreased;" but there will still be room for improvement so long as the merest trace of this indefensible practice remains in our civilization to link it with the iniquitous days of barbarity and human depravity.

Physical torture never did and never will reform any man, or make him a better man.

The tendency of it is only to embitter him and make him a worse man and a greater menace to society when he is restored to liberty.

It is in no sense reformative, but only degrading; and, as Robert G. Ingersoll put it in his great lecture on "Crimes Against Criminals," "there is no reformation in degradation."

"To mutilate a criminal," continued Ingersoll—

"is to say to all the world that he is a criminal, and to render his reformation substantially impossible. Whoever is degraded by society becomes its enemy. The seeds of malice are sown in his heart, and to the day of his death he will hate the hand that sowed the seeds. . . . A punishment that degrades the punished will degrade the man who inflicts the punishment, and will degrade the government that procures the infliction. The whipping-post pollutes not only the whipped, but the whipper, and not only the whipper, but the community at large. Wherever its shadow falls it degrades. . . . When a government tortures, it is in the same state of mind that the criminal was when he committed his crime. It

(8252)

equires as much malice in those who torture a criminal as it did in the criminal to torture and kill his victim."

There is something wrong with any penal system under which it is necessary to degrade and torture defenseless convicts by mutilating their flesh with a whiplash in order to make them obedient to the rules of discipline; and the guard who resorts to such an inhumane and inhuman expedient does so either because he is himself a man of brutal instincts or else incompetent for the position he holds. In either event he is grossly out of place in a position of authority.

Georgia can very well afford to do some radical reforming in this direction; and it is to be hoped that the time is not far distant when grand juries in every county in the state can truthfully report that the practice of flogging convicts has been relegated to the limbo in which it belongs.

DISTORTED JUSTICE.

11-23-17

The Atlanta Constitution 11-23-17

A few days ago a man was arrested and haled into court charged with driving an automobile through the streets of Atlanta while drunk to the point of irresponsibility. He was convicted and the judge sentenced him to serve four months on the chaingang, or, to pay a fine of $25!

The same judge subsequently sentenced a negro, who had been found guilty of stealing a 60-pound tub of lard—the evidence going further to connect the culprit with the disappearance of fifteen similar tubs of lard, each valued at $16.35—to serve ten months on the chaingang, or, to pay a fine of $100!

If the drunken motorist had been compelled to serve four months on the roads the chances are that when released he would think a long while before again filling his skin with whisky and trying to drive an automobile through the streets. But the payment of a $25 fine was a mere incident to a gay lark.

It will take a lot of that sort of administration of justice to minimize or discourage crime in Atlanta, much less to put a stop to it.

TIME FOR ACTION.

11-1-17 The Birmingham Reporter

A few months ago a street car conductor shot with deadly effect a Negro soldier in the back. No weapon of any description was found on the person of the slain man nor did the soldier threaten the life of his slayer. The conductor was acquitted a few days ago on the ground that he killed the soldier in self defense.

The Birmingham Reporter 11-11-17

About a month ago a street car conductor threatened to slap a colored woman. A colored man intervened only to have his face slapped by the conductor. During the mix-up that followed, eye witnesses state, the conductor on the trailer ran up and shot to death the Negro. Verdict of the coroner: "Negro met death at hands of party unknown."

A few days ago a prominent Negro physician was held by four employes of Drennen's Garage while he was brutally assaulted by a fifth white man who had been "sassed" by the Negro physician. The "sass" that so enraged the motor mechanic was that the physician said to him, "My name is not 'George,", in reply to the querry of the mechanic, "What can I do for you, George?"

What will be done about it? Nothing, of course. The physician congratulates himself that he was not lynched. Negroes have been lynched for less.

As we see it, there is direct and vital connection between such wanton attacks upon the lives and limbs of black men and the brazen acts of lawlessness now being perpetrated by white men against the industrial and political life of the United Government. Crime is no respector of person or of race. It grows by what it feeds upon. Black men may not be singled out as easy victims of those but little removed from the level of the "tooth and claw" without paving the way for a like fate for white men.

As the Editor of the "Columbia State" recently observed:

"Occasionally a man has killed an innocent Negro and fancied that 'he got by with it.'—but it is not true. Manslaying is not necessarily murder, the laws wisely draw the distinctions, but no mortal man has ever gained by murder, whether his victim was of the lowly or the mighty, and no murder goes unpunished that the country of the murderer does not suffer the penalty many times over.

"Thousands of graves of white men slain by white men are in the cemeteries of the South, because of the toleration and tacit encouragement of murder of Negroes, for when the white jury neglects to punish the murderer of a Negro, it fosters murder as a habit. Probably never was an innocent Nego slaughtered in the South that some white man, not in any way connected with the quarrel, did not bite the dust as a result of it for the simple reason that crime is a disease that draws no color line and white men infected with it by the killing of Negroes infect their brethren.

"It is in the law of nature that the killing of Negroes does not go unavenged and there is many a family of white orphans in the South that owe their sorrowful condition to the folly that permits the practice of lawlessness against men with black skins."

This is sound doctrine given at a time that should cause straight thinking and a few more hangings. If the right to life is lightly regarded, by what process of reasoning may we expect property rights to be held as sacred?

We believe that America has come to the parting of the way. She must set her face like flint against all forms of lawlessness, even when committed against the most humble of her citizenry, or she will surely become a by-word among civilized nations.

There is no escape from the law of Nature and of Nature's God. If she continues to sow to the winds she will as surely reap the whirlwinds.

Can it be possible that a nation idealistic enough to send the best of her breed thousands of miles to fight for bleeding and outraged humanity finds herself too weak and vacillating to strike to earth the enemy within her gates?—the enemy, lawlessness, that is slowly sapping her very life blood?

We still cling to the lingering hope that America will yet assert her better self, to the infinite relief of her persecuted black children to her own honor and glory.

CLEAN UP THE CROOKS.

The Atlanta Independent 11-7-18

Following the wounding of Chief of Police O'Brien, by a highwayman a few days ago, orders have been issued to clean up the crooks of this city.

To a close observer, it furnishes an amusement to see these blue coats and detectives leave their stations looking for Negroes. It seems that they forget that there are white crooks and gun toters until they run into them robbing or shooting up somebody. In which event they devote a little time to catching the offenders and then resume their vigilance looking for Negroes.

Of course when the orders are issued, they must bring in somebody, and we suppose that Negroes are less trouble to bring in and, as a rule more defenseless, and the police have less trouble in "making a case."

We have no defense for the Negro idler, thief or gun toter, but the seeming one-sided affair does not help the efficiency of the Police Department.

The trouble may be in the orders issued. They may not be specific enough. These officers should be instructed to go into the "Big Timber" and get a few of the big criminals and fetch them in. They should also be told in plain words that there are some white crooks as well as colored in the city. And not to assume every time a robbery is reported that the crime has been committed by some Negro, thus wasting so many useless hours looking for, questioning and arresting every Negro they see, while the real criminal makes good his get-away.

We believe that many real criminals have followed the police around, laughing up their sleeves while the police were running around color-blind.

It is hoped that when the order is issued to "clean up" that it will be applicable to white as well as colored. The big as well as the little.

MORE PISTOL HAVOC.

The Atlanta Constitution 11-1-18

In a number of drunken night brawls and street fights in Atlanta a few nights ago two negroes were killed and three were badly wounded, blind tiger whiskey and the hip-pocket pistol being at the bottom of it all.

And that orgy of maniacal revelry and crime took place under supposedly strict "bone-dry" prohibition conditions and within a straight of a similar one which was followed by a vehement "declaration of war" on pistol-"toters" by the police department.

It may be argued with a semblance of plausibility that the killing of a whiskey-soaked negro—or white man, for that matter—does not entail great loss to the community; but that is not the point.

The main thing to be considered is that a flying bullet is no respecter of persons, and that it is just as likely to hit and kill the most valuable citizen in the community, if he or she happens to be within its reach, as it is to imbed itself in a telephone pole.

When bullets are flying through the air—especially bullets fired by irresponsibles, "blind drunk"—the life of no citizen within range is secure.

As a result of this last crime debauch the public will have to stand the expense of at least two murder trials, and a number of other court hearings of lesser magnitude, beside paying for the medical and hospital attention required by the injured.

All of which, to say nothing of the disgrace the community suffers gives the public abundant right to complain and to protest and the thing that doubly justifies complaint on the part of the people is the fact that all of it was preventable.

The police have the right to search every negro and every white citizen whom they may suspect of carrying a concealed weapon, and there is ample law under which to deal with anyone in whose pockets a pistol is found.

Periodically "declaring war" upon blind tigers and carriers of concealed weapons is all right when followed by performance. Otherwise it is unavailing, and tends only to encourage crime and disrespect for law and order.

Crime—1919.

NEGROES WANT A STATE POLICE ACT IN TENNESSEE

The Montgomery Advertiser 3-22-19

Appeal to Legislature; Lynching of Rapists and Murderers at Bottom

NASHVILLE, TENN., March 21.—An appeal to the Governor and the legislature for the passage of the state police bill has been presented by the National Association for the advancement of the colored people. The appeal is signed by J. S. Napier, J. A. Jones and R. L. Mayberry.

It is stated in the memorial that lynching in the south has reached its climax, that it would appear that the law had lost its sancity, and charging that the confession of the citizenry that lynchings cannot be prevented is but to say that the people are incapable of self government. Mob law is stamped as anarchy, savagery in its worst form, and is contrary to all forms of civilized government.

The memorial concludes by appealing to Governor Roberts to give his support to the police bill, which is primarily designed to suppress mob violence in this State. The appeal is made in the name of 200,000 black people of Tennessee "in the name of righteousness, justice and fair play; in the name of the honor of the state and in the name of the soldiers who bled to make the world a better place in which to live."

NEGRO GUNMAN IS STILL UNDISCOVERED

BELOIT WIS NEWS
JULY 1, 1919

Mystery as to the identity of the negro gunman who fired five shots in a brawl just outside the negro ice cream parlor on South Race Street, and also regarding whether the bullets fired by the gunman found their mark, continued to baffle Beloit police at work on the case today.

According to stories told by members of the group of negroes who witnessed the shooting, suspicion now points toward a single person in the group, whose name authorities are unwilling to divulge. Police assert that they can locate the suspected negro, and hope to catch him before the end of the week.

The Double Standard In Maryland

The Baltimore Daily Herald 12-5-19.

John T. Weldon a respectable Negro of Philadelphia a man of excellent reputed and well thought of by citizens of his home town disappeared early in the month of July this year. He was the owner and driver of a transfer auto car and he was last seen and traced in company with Clarence Cothron, white, by whom he was employed to drive him and his wife on various trips. It was believed that Weldon met with foul play and Cothron was suspected. Baltimore detectives took up the trail followed Cothron and his wife to Jacksonville, Florida, brought him back to the scene of his murder of Weldon and he himself piloted the officers to the spot where he had concealed the body of Weldon and exhibited to them the skeleton of the murdered man.

Confronted with unescapable proof of the murder he resorted to the ready and most sympathy enlisting defense of a white man against a Negro, that Weldon made improper advances to his wife; later he added to this that he killed Weldon in self defence.

His wife denied that Weldon made improper proposals to her and swore that Cothron killed him for money and to secure possession of a diamond ring which Weldon had. Cothran was the only witness for himself; the State proved by eighteen witnesses including Cothran's wife that the murder of Weldon was one of the most brutal, deliberate permeditated and cold blooded that was ever perpretrated in Maryland. And yet a Maryland jury sworn to render a verdict in accordance with the law and evidence brought in a verdict of guilty of first degree murder without capital punishment.

On the other hand George Cummings, charged with killing a white man in August was tried, convicted and pays the penalty for his crime on the gallows to-day. George Cummings is a Negro who killed a white man; Clarence Cothron a white man who killed wantonly and maliciously a Negro. Cummings the Negro is given the full penalty of the law while Cothron, the white man for a crime far more horrible and brutal is shown leniency and given a sentence involving doubt or mitigating circumstances.

There should be no double standard in Maryland, nor any other state. Justice should know no color line; the penalty that fits the crime committed by a Negro should also measure the crime committed by a white man even though committed upon the body of a Negro.

Dispensing justice along the color line does not tend to heighten the respect of the citizen either white or black for the law. It inspires the belief on the part of the white man that he is above the law especially in his dealings with the Negro and prompts the commission of many crimes because of the belief of immunity from punishment because of skin whiteness. It arouses in the Negro a spirit of bitterness and resentment and often drives him to the commission of crime because of the belief that he cannot hope for justice from the courts.

ARREST MANY NEGROES

Charges of Loitering Brought Against Twenty-one

MONTGOMERY ALA ADVERTISER
OCTOBER 13, 1919

Twenty-one negroes were arrested by police officers Saturday night after one o'clock, all charged with loitering. Six negro women were arrested on charges of vagrancy. Most of these negroes were collected on Hall street near the scene of the recent shooting of Police Officer Barbaree. They will tell their troubles to the recorder Monday afternoon.

The police force has been instructed to run in all loitering and idle negroes found about the city.

STREET SENTENCE PUNISHMENT FOR WIELDING KNIFE

Jeff Craig's Wife Also Turned Against Him in His Day of Trial.

GREENSBORO N C NEWS
[illegible] 20, 1919

"Jeff Craig," cried the prosecuting attorney in city court.

Over in the corner of the prisoner's dock, a tan youth had been trying for half an hour to wring some tears out of stubbornly dry eyes, but they came now. With a sob, he responded:

"Dat's me."

But 'twas only an April shower, for after the first few drops, the protruding eyes were as dry as before. Jeff was on trial for using a knife upon another negro. John Costner was the victim of the knife and Lee Fentress called John to the stand.

Up for the Bible went the man with a strange pattern in adhesive tape over a bald head, and wearing a coat with a clean knife cut 10 inches long under the left arm. Jeff certainly had wielded that knife!

Looking for Trouble.

John told his tale. He met Jeff at the Washington street crossing and said to him, "Now, feller, I don't want no trouble." Then Jeff responded, "Me I'm looking fer trouble."

"Looking for trouble, was he?" quered Judge Jones, glancing speculatively at cowering Jeff.

So the cutting occurred, said John. Jeff was asked if he would like to quiz John. Astounding the court, he said he would like to ask John to pay him out of trouble. Then the truth of the fight was aired. John was Jeff's brother-in-law and Jeff resented his wife's finding refuge from what John said was the husband's cruelty, in her brother's home. Jeff drew four months.

The Cruel Parting.

On the way to Jail, the negro asked to speak to his wife. She came reluctantly across the street. "Gwine to visit me on the streets?" he want-to know. "Ain't gwine to fool with you no longer, nigger," said Nola in a positive soprano. "You done promise too often. Three times is out." Said Jeff persuasively, "I'll git dem 'leven dollars and give part of it to you." "what 'leven dollars?" she asked, not interested. Then, "Man, I done tole you I ain't gwine to foll wid you." Jeff's eyes sparkled a bit. It was an unnatured, strained situation. No husband ought to be so handicapped. There were three big policemen near and he couldnt follow his natural impulse. He choked his real feeling, and a moment later leaned over and kissed the unenthusiastic black woman and was led away to begin his sentence.

RACES CLASH AND NEGRO IS MADE TO PAY A SMALL FINE

GREENSBORO N C
DECEMBER 24, 1918

Joe Wortham Gets $2.50 and the Costs From Judge Jones.

A little white boy and a negro had a fight last night in a drug store, where both worked. When the big policeman arrived not a great deal of damage had been done, but he took the colored boy and led him to police headquarters.

The negro, Joe Wortham, resisted. He didn't want to go and he gave the policeman a deal of trouble, but that officer, Seymour Jeffreys, got him in and this morning he was tried. The judge saw in the fracas only a boy's fight and let the negro off with a fine of $2.50 and the costs.

The only other business of the court consisted today in the trial of two white men who were charged with being drunk. They were. The court fines were light. One of the men said yesterday morning he came up town to get a friend out of jail, who had been drunk, and this morning his friend had to come get him out.

CAUSES OF AMERICA'S "CRIME WAVE"

The Literary Digest 12-27-19.

A COUNTRY-WIDE CRIME WAVE, reported in the press of such widely separated cities as Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia, St. Louis, San Francisco, New York, Portland (Ore.), and Detroit, has led to serious editorial discussion as to the cause. "Drug fiends, in a desperate effort to obtain narcotics or the money to buy them, cause the present crime wave," says the Los Angeles *Times*, and quotes the city's captain of detectives as saying, "Remove our 2,500 drug-users from the city, and crime will sink at once at least ninety per cent." Another police official in the City of the Angels asserts that drug addicts must have their narcotics, "or money to buy them, and the only means they have to raise the cash are the pistol, the padded club, the dirk, and the jimmy." Various other reasons for the prevalent crime wave are ascribed, ranging from the organized propaganda of sedition with which the country has been flooded, according to the Seattle *Times*, to the fact that, in Chicago particularly, "the street-lights had been dimmed as a result of the coal shortage."

Replying in all seriousness to the charge that "prohibition is responsible for the crime wave sweeping over the nation," a correspondent of the New York *Evening Post* says such a ridiculous charge is probably due to "the fallacy of the universal"—there is increased crime, and prohibition has been passed, therefore prohibition has caused the crime. The correspondent, therefore, goes on to present other reasons:

"It is the condition that has followed all wars. It is the backwash of the military tides. The psychology of it may be the suspension of the civil law by the military or the suspension of the moral law by the irregularities of war. Another possible reason is the confusion in the period of reconstruction which emboldens the criminal to seek an advantage. Also the explanation has been offered that increase in crime is due to inadequate lighting caused by the coal shortage. It is a matter of history that the illumination of London by gas years ago brought about a notable decrease in the percentage of crime in that city."

The above correspondent, after denying that prohibition causes crime, quotes statistics to show that "the saloon was the most prolific producer of crime known"; that this is the "universally accepted view." The quotation of statistics irritates the New York *Morning Telegraph* to this reply:

"The assertion that 'reliable statistics show that the saloon was the most prolific producer of crime,' we regard as ridiculous. So far as we have been able to discover, such statistics have no existence; they are made up of the patter, the sounding brass and tinkling cymbals of hot-air orators speaking to throngs at temperance camp-meetings in some grove on a summer afternoon. 'Statistics show,' yells some speaker, 'that whisky causes almost all of the murders in the country.' Whereas whisky probably caused none of the murders. Jealousy, a desire to rob, and sudden anger are the causes of homicide."

Other interesting deductions as to the part prohibition has played in the crime waves are forthcoming, however, among the most ingenious of which is the following, set forth in the Lancaster (Pa.) *Intelligencer:*

"Does prohibition have anything to do with these crime waves and the getting away with it? There are less arrests now everywhere by fifty per cent. There are less murders. There is less domestic relation trouble, but more divorce. But there are more big robberies.

"Just after prohibition went into effect a leading local criminal lawyer said to the writer: 'Mark this. With the advent of prohibition, we will have much less crime but cleverer crooks. There will be big things doing in the world of crooks and they will get away with it. Under booze the cleverest and most hardened used booze to steady them. When they can't get it, and go about their nefarious tasks with a clear mind and eye, it will be the very d—— to catch them.'"

The fact that, according to the St. Louis *Star*, the police of that city, by trailing suspicious characters, unearthed a so-called crime club—an organized band of thieves and burglars—leads several newspapers to believe that crime in this country has been placed upon an organized basis, and a general plea is made for increased efficiency in the police forces of the larger cities, 'where the picking is big," according to one newspaper. In commenting upon the prompt steps taken by the Chicago police to break up a "murder group," the Baltimore *American* points out the fact that seven of the men arrested were aliens of the underworld, who made a practise of organizing in bands for the purpose of preying upon their more successful countrymen. Several of these men have confessed their crimes, and have implicated others. Continues *The American:*

"These seven have killed and robbed at least five Chicago men and made a very profitable business of it. Most of them are aliens of the lowest type, and the immigration laws should have put a ban on their admission to this country."

The Chicago *Tribune*, after publishing the fact that there had been almost three hundred murders committed in Chicago during the first eleven months of 1919, comes to the defense of its city in the following words:

"We do confess to more outlawry than we think is our normal share. But we resent the imputation that we proportionately are any more mischievous toward the laws than another American city. In short, we are trying to clean our own hearth without calling attention to our neighbors' untidiness. In a community of glass houses we are trying to keep from throwing stones."

All other American communities should take warning from what the New York *Times* terms "Chicago's wildest orgy of crime," declares the Seattle *Times*, which admits that conditions similiar to those obtaining for a time in Chicago would be the lot of other American cities, including Seattle, "were the police authorities to let up even for a day in their drastic enforcement of the law." The Detroit *Free Press*, praising the energetic action of the police of that city in rounding up all the criminals they can find, pleads for more leeway for the police, giving as an instance of law being enforced to the letter the arrest of a suspicious character by a policeman, and the suspect's subsequent release by a police judge because the officer arrested him without a warrant. Other means of dealing with professional criminals are brought to our attention by the San Francisco *Bulletin*, which says that city's police chief has reduced the day force in order to allot a greater number to the night shift, and that these men are armed with "sawed-off" shotguns and whirled about the city in different makes of high-powered automobiles.

The newspapers of Philadelphia have not waited for other cities to comment upon the crime wave in their city. *The Press* calls attention to an attempt to blow up one church and strip another; a dramatic jewel theft by motor bandits; safe-cracking; the theft of automobiles; the theft of diamond earrings from a woman within a block of her home, and a suburban robbery by another motor bandit—all in one week.

In St. Louis, which does not seem to have escaped the crime wave, *The Star* demands to know why the round-ups of "men known to the police to be criminals, having no vocation except that of law-breaking," are deferred until the "community has been terrorized by wholesale robberies and burglaries." In Portland, Ore., responsibility for the police department in its campaign against law-breaking elements is placed by *The Telegram* on the shoulders of the Mayor. Asserting that there ha been too much leniency by the courts in dealing with crimin cases brought before them, *The Telegram* goes on:

"Speedy arrest, reasonable certainty of conviction, and absolute surety that punishment will follow where the crimi is of the professional class—all these combined with a police partment and detective force really alive and on their toes correct the impression that Portland is an easy mark for criminal, and relieve the city of their presence and the epid of crime they now inflict."

FOUR NEGROES BEAT PATROLMAN UNCONSCIOUS AND THEN ESCAPE

John L. Respess Attacked by Two Men and Two Women When He Attempts to Arrest Them for Fighting.

Patrolman John L. Respess lies at his ome, No. 345 Central avenue, suffering om injuries received yesterday afternoon at the hands of a gang of negroes hom he attempted to arrest on White eet, near Central avenue yesterday ternoon.

The patrolman responded to a comaint of neighbors that there was a sturbance in the house. He rushed in nd found four negroes, two men and two women, battling inside. As the patrolman ppeared at the door the four stopped ghting and attacked him. One blow n the mouth from a burly felled the atrolman. He was rendered unconscious nd lay there for some time.

Neighbors who noticed the negroes aving the place, and who had observed that the patrolman entered and didn't reappear, telephoned to Chief of Police Charles L. Bowden, and the chief hurried to the scene, taking Patrolman Alex Thompson and Patrolman F. M. Harper with him. They found Patrolman Respess still lying on the floor. He recovered consciousness and was taken to his home.

The patrolman was robbed of his pistol, but apparently nothing else was taken from him. The negroes left their shoes, coats and hats and some of their other wearing apparel on the floor and on chairs in the room. The police seized these.

Later in the afternoon, J. C. White, a negro, who is alleged to have been one of the gang, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct. The police are hunting for the other three.

MONTGOMERY ALA. ADVERTISER
JANUARY 17, 1919

Joe Morgan, negro fireman on an L. and N. train sought to establish the guilt of Mary Gunter, whom he had caused to be arrested for the theft of $54. Joe's only evidence was that he had seen Mary counting some money yesterday morning after he had spent the night in the same lodging house occupied by her. Judgment was reserved.

Modie Hamilton, colored, was bound over to the grand jury on the charge of petit larceny. Mrs. E. R. Alexander of Tuscumbia preferred the charge, alleging the theft of a silver mesh bag containing $6.50 at the Pickwick cafe last Tuesday night. Bond was placed at $200.

Tom Banks, charged with violating the prohibition law of Alabama was fined $100 and given 120 days extra. He denied strenuously that he had dispensed with some ripe "Ed Henderson" but the evidence was sufficient, in the mind of the recorder to send Tom up.

MACON, GA. TELEGRAPH
JANUARY 14, 19[illegible]

[illegible], cruelty to animals, one month or $20.

Robert Simmons, colored, pleaded guilty to having no automobile tag and was fined $20.

MACON, GA. TELEGRAPH
JANUARY 14, 19[illegible]

John Walker, colored, gaming, two months or $25.

Crime — 1919.

Prussian Methods In U.S. Military Law Charges G. T. Page

Military Justice Will Be Considered by American Bar Association, Announces President of Organization.

New York, January 3.—Administration of military justice in the United States army will be one of the subjects considered at the annual meeting of the American Bar association. The executive committee of the association, at a meeting here today, decided it is a subject which requires consideration and "probably some reformation."

In making the announcement President George T. Page, of Peoria, Ill., gave out a statement in which he declared that the war has demonstrated "that our military laws and our system of administering military justice are unworthy of the name of law or justice." The United States, he said, still is following rules copied from England in 1774, but which were abandoned long ago by Great Britain and which were better suited "to the armies of feudal times than to the citizen armies of a modern republic."

Punishments Outrageous.

"My interest in this matter was aroused some time ago," he said, "by stories of the outrageous punishments meted out by our court-martials for comparatively slight breaches of military discipline. Punishments are not only grossly harsh, as compared with the penalties imposed for like offenses by our criminal courts, but they also differ so widely that we find the same offense punished in one court-martial by 25 years in the penitentiary and in another by six months' punishment in disciplinary barracks.

"A boy overstaying his leave, or yielding to a natural impulse to go home for Christmas, is charged, not

Age Wins Leniency For Negro Tigre

SHREVEPORT TIMES
JANUARY 4 1919

Old age counted something for Dunham, negrees, yesterday when was arraigned before Judge David Samuel in city court on a charge of retailing liquor, commonly termed plain bootlegging, and to which she pleaded guilty. The fifty-five years she has spent on earth caused strands of white to interming'e in her tangled jet-black hair, and, looking upon this, the court set her fine at the lowest possible amount, assessing her $100 and cost for the city and a like amount for the state.

Taking up the next case, in which age did not figure, Judge Samuel imposed a fine of $100 for the city and $200 and cost for the state on Pearl Minter, also alias, after having found her guilty of operating a blind tiger. Evidence produced in court showed conclusively that she had sold a half pint of whisky for a stipulated amount, and thereby brought about her arrest Wednesday night.

It required a fine of $5 for B. F. Moore, an Appleby (Texas) farmer to be reminded that Christmas "drunks" must be postponed a few days after Yuletide. Moore was haled before the court on a "plain drunk" charge, and in court the defendant explained that he secured whisky from Monroe while on his way home from Camp Beauregard, where he had been visiting his soldier son.

Bond was forfeited in the case of G. W. Murray, an oil operator, who had been arrested Thursday night on two charges, one for being drunk and disorderly and the second for "toting" a revolver. Murray failed to appear when his case came up for hearing.

Will Grigsby, a chauffeur, was ordered to pay the city $10 when he pleaded guilty before Judge Samuel to a charge of speeding. He paid.

NEGRO SHOOTS TWO IN NORTH CAROLINA

Civilian Fatally Injured Who Responds to Call of Officer

The Memphis Commercial Appeal 1-6-19

(Associated Press.)

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C., Jan. 5.—An unidentified negro late last night shot and fatally injured Charles Devine, aged 22, and wounded Policeman C. S. Henry in the knee.

The officer tried to arrest the negro on the charge of carrying a concealed weapon and the young white man was shot when he answered the officer's appeal for help.

The negro escaped

MACON (GA.) TELEGRAPH
JANUARY 14, 1919

THE MEMBERS of "Obie's gang," which has been busy for several months stealing groceries from many stores, were bound over yesterday in the Recorder's Court. The chief of the gang of six negroes was Obie Curtis. Obie and all the members of his band will face trial at the next session of the City Court.

THE CASE AGAINST a negro giving his name as Florence Jones was continued yesterday morning in the Recorder's Court. The negro is charged with assault with intent to murder. According to the police, Jones picked up a piece of iron and a knife and attempted to kill J. A. Herndon, a foreman at the Central of Georgia shops, where Jones was employed. The trouble started when the foreman cautioned Jones about talking disrespectfully before a negress in the shops. Jones has been released on a bond of $275.

PRISON FARM SCANDAL

Jackson Miss News 1-9-19

Governor Bilbo issued a lengthy interview last night regarding his recent inspection of the prison camps at the Parchman farm.

If conditions are as bad as described by the Governor, somebody ought to be impeached. It is certain, at least; that such conditions could not prevail without the knowledge of the prison trustees, who are required to make inspections of the prison camps at stated intervals.

It is likely, however, that there will be a disposition in the public mind to take the Governor's statement cum grano salis. The tenor of his interview shows rather conclusively that he went out to "get" somebody; that he made the inspection with a firm purpose in his mind to indulge in fault-finding, and that his personal feelings toward certain prison officials are far from friendly.

For instance, the first charge made by the Governor is that he found sixteen convicts bearing scars from the use of the leather strap. It is quite true that corporal punishment is occasionally administered to convicts, and it is done with the full knowledge and consent of the prison trustees. For more than dozen years there has been a difference of opinion among trustees as to the necessity for corporal punishment. Some favor it, others do not. It appears, however, that there is a class of negro convicts at Parchman among whom discipline cannot be established by any other means—at least, this is the firm opinion of sergeants and guards, and the views of the men who handle these prisoners are at least entitled to some weight.

Governor Bilbo charges that negro women are brought to the Parchman farm for immoral purposes; that they are allowed to stay with the convicts, and all sorts of lewdness is permitted. If this be true, then those who have been responsible for this state of affairs should be summarily discharged and also prosecuted under the criminal statutes. It is not a sufficient answer to this criticism to say that only a year or so ago women were being kept at the insane hospital in this city for exactly the same purpose, and that certain state officials had guilty knowledge thereof. Two wrongs don't make a right. Merely because it happened among the white folks does not justify a repetition among the negroes. It is possible, of course, that the negro convicts true to an inherent trait of the race, were imitating the whites, but that, at best, can be offered merely as an excuse, and not a justification.

The Governor says that several cases of venereal disease were found among the convicts, traceable to the negro women who have been visiting the camps. This is an inevitable consequence. However, an examination of the reports of prison farm physicians will show that venereal diseses have always existed among the convicts, especially those recently sentenced. Often the percentage is very high.

Other features of the Governor's report deal chiefly with methods of management at Parchman. He complains that no effort has been made at Parchman to improve the soil; that stumps have not been removed from the fields; that the amount of foodstuffs raised for convicts is not sufficient; that the farm implements are not properly sheltered; that there are no modern barns either at Parchman or Quitman.

If these conditions prevail it is quite likely that the responsibility must be shared with the legislature. The prison trustees cannot build barns or other farm structures without specific appropriations therefor. Despite the fact that our prison system for the last fiscal year showed a net profit of $714,000, none of the money can be used for building purposes. The farmers and their convict tenants are supported by direct legislative appropriation, and the trustees have no authority to exceed the amount, regardless of what profits may be made.

During the past twenty years we have had a large number of scandals and sensations real and alleged, in the penitentiary management. The institution has been a frequent subject of legislative investigation. In no instance, however, have conditions been quite so bad as painted by those who stirred up the trouble. In a majority of cases politics has been more or less involved in these official probings.

However, Governor Bilbo has preferred charges that cannot be ignored. The prison trustees will be derelict in their duty if they fail to order an immediate investigation. A formal hearing should take place in Jackson, witnesses should be summoned, sittings held with open doors, and the truth or falsity of the Governor's charges fully established

MACON (GA.) TELEGRAPH
JANUARY 14, 1919.

Edward Streat, colored, wife whipping, nolle prossed.

NEGRO DRESSED IN U. S. UNIFORM ATTACKS WOMAN

Military Authorities Investigate Crime Near Camp

(over)

LOUISVILLE KY COURIER JOURNAL
JANUARY 11, 1919

Attacked by a negro dressed in a soldier's uniform, Mrs. Mollie Knevel, living on Schuff lane, between Poplar level and Newburg roads, suf-

fered slight scratches on the face and was badly frightened at 9:30 o'clock yesterday morning. The military authorities are investigating the case.

The Knevel home is but a short distance from the eastern limits of Camp Zachary Taylor. The victim had been in the city and was returning home when she was approached by the negro, walking in the opposite direction. She said that as he neared her he ran, holding out his hands. When she shrank back from his clutches he commanded her not to make an outcry. He seized her by the throat and threw her beside the road.

Mrs. Knevel believes that her screams frightened him, as he made no attempt to take her purse or the bundles she carried or to molest her further, but fled from the scene, going in the direction of the Newburg road. She quickly regained her feet and went with all haste to her home, several hundred yards away. The point where she was attacked is a rather secluded spot. Mrs. Knevel was in a highly nervous state when she reached the house.

The circumstances were reported to the offiec of the Provost Marshal and a detachment of fifty members of the Provost Guard Company, under command of Capt. E. F. Bowen, went to the scene. No trace of the negro could be found. Miss Roberta Link, a niece of Mrs. Knevel, driving a buggy, had passed a negro on the road a few minutes before. She believes the man she passed was the assailant. She said that his manner in gazing at her made her uneasy and caused her to whip up the horse and hurry away. The two women were able to give a meager description of the negro.

ALABAMA SHERIFFS MEET HERE TODAY

Interested in Fees Bill—Seek Its Passage Before January 20th

The Sheriffs's Association of Alabama will meet this morning to complete the work on proposed legislation they will ask at the hands of the next legislature. This meeting will be held at the County Courthouse at 9 o'clock, it was announced last night by Sheriff-elect T. W. Russell, of Monroeville, who will be the next Sheriff of Monroe County, who is the chairman of the Sheriff's Association.

The Sheriff's held a meeting here some weeks ago and started a movement to change certain laws regarding fees and the feeding of prisoners, and the meeting today is to complete the work they started at their previous session. Practically every sheriff in the State will be present at th meeting today, or they will have a representative as it is their idea to pass these bills before they go into office on the 20th and thus they can receive the benefits.

Among the sheriffs, who had arrived last night for the session today are:

T. W. Russell, of Monroe.
J. B. Laseter, of Barbour.
R. G. Kendall, of Conecuh.
A. H. May, of Houston.
O. B. Christopher, of Choctaw.
Joe S. Daniel, of Cherokee.
H. M. Couch, of Marion.
T. P. Miller, of Colbert.

Editor The Advertiser:

There are two pre-election promises that are never fulfilled.

In every primary campaign many legislative candidates announce, as the principal planks in their platforms, first, "the abolition of useless offices and the reduction of salaries," and second, "the abolition of the Convict Department and working the convicts on the public roads."

After the Legislature convenes, these two planks generally relapse into 'inocuous desuetude," and take their quadrennial sleep of four years, until resurrected for the next campaign.

The Legislators do not deserve criticism for failure to enact these planks into laws.

When they are making their campaigns they want to be elected and these are good shiboleths. The average voter is satisfied, if he knows the candidate is orthodox on these planks.

When the Legislature convenes, and the members make investigations, and become familiar with the business of the State, they find it a difficult problem to ascertain, which are the useless offices, and which salaries should be reduced.

What They Find.

Then there is a continual advancement and development of the activities of the State, that necessitate the creation of new offices.

All of these offices require officials to discharge their duties, and an investigation shows that these officials from the Governor and Supreme Court Judges, down to the watchmen at the Capitol, are not receiving salaries, disproportionate to the duties they perform.

They realize that the State, in every department, should have the services of first class business men and that it is economy to pay them fair salaries. When he investigates the abolition of the convict department, the legislator is confronted with a "condition not a theory."

He knows that for a number of years the disbursements of the State have exceeded the receipts, several hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, with the result of a large deficit, practically $2,000,000.

Great Revenue Source.

He also knows that the Convict Department is the State's second largest source of revenue and to abolish this department now would further increase the deficit, unless there was a large increase of taxes, or other methods of revenue provided.

In this connection, the following facts and figures relative to the Convict Department for the past four years, will be interesting.

The following are the receipts of the State, and the gross receipts of the Convict Department for the four fiscal years ending September 30th, 1918.

	State	Convict Dept.
1915	$6,694,538.32	$1,070,474.41
1916	7,138,674.86	1,546,213.69
1917	7,670,642.84	1,716,710.49
1918	8,450,857.31	2,115,010.21
Total	$29,954,713.34	$6,448,408.80

These figures show that for these four fiscal years, over one fifth of the revenue of the State was derived from the Convict Department, and for the fiscal year ending September 30th, 1918, one fourth of the revenue was derived from it.

The following are the salaries, expenses and court costs of the Convict Department for the four fiscal years ending September 30th, 1918.

	Salaries	Expenses	Court Costs
1915	$161,860.91	$589,442.08	$66,031.77
1916	194,324.44	671,024.75	56,542.52
1917	205,742.12	978,141.44	43,702.99
1918	204,856.56	1,115,098.93	19,977.42
Total	$766,784.03	$3,353,707.20	$186,254.70

The following are the net receipts of the Convict Department for the four fiscal years ending September 30th, 1918:

1915	$253,139.65
1916	624,321.98
1917	489,123.94
1918	775,077.30
Total	$2,141,672.87

These figures show not only is the Convict Department self supporting, paying all the expenses of its operation, but in the last four fiscal years has paid $2,141,672.87 net into the State Treasury.

For the fiscal year ending September 30th, 1918, it paid $775,077.30 net into the State Treasury, the largest amount paid, in one year, in its history.

The Expenses.

For the fiscal year ending September 30th, 1918, the expenses of operating the department were $1,339,932.91.

If the department is abolished where will the State obtain the money to work the convicts on the public roads?

It would evidently cost more to work them on the roads, than by the present method.

They are now concentrated in a few camps, where the State owns property of the estimated value of $1,030,172.54.

No doubt they can be worked cheaper now than make entirely new methods.

There are generally between 2,500 and 3,000 State convicts in the penitentiary, and it can easily be seen, what an expense it would incur to abolish the present system and substitute working the convicts on the roads.

When we take into consideration the financial condition of the State and the high cost of living, it presents a difficul problem, and it is not surprising that th Legislature finds difficulty in its adjustment

This is not written in favor of the retention of the Convict Department, as I hav no interest whatever in it, personal, politi cal or financial, but to show the difficulty of its abolition now.

When the deficit is adjusted, business returns to its normal condition, and a scientific system of road construction is adopted the Legislature can gradually abolish the Convict Department and work the convicts on the public roads.

A DECREASE OF MURDERS IN NORTH CAROLINA

More Rigid Enforcement of Law Against Concealed Weapons Has Fine Effect

A decrease of 20 per cent in the number of murders committed in North Carolina during the year ending July 1, 1918, as compared with the preceding year, was reported to Attorney General J. S. Manning, according to the biennial report which has recently been printed in booklet form.

While there was a decrease for the last year, the most notable feature of the statistical summary is shown in the fact that last year there were only seven first degree murders reported while for the preceding year there were 156.

The improvement in community morale through the strict enforcement of the prohibiting of the carrying of concealed weapons is indicated not only in the decease from 593 in 1917 to 529 in 1918, but also in the more notable falling off in the number of assaults with deadly weapons from 1,011 in 1917 to 848 in 1918. The primitive method of settling disputes, however, increased as 507 cases of assault and battery were reported in 1918 and only 474 in 1917.

An evidence of the strictness with which the prohibition laws of the State are enforced in the striking fact that for the two years the largest number of offenses reported was for the sale of intoxicating liquors, 1,017 cases being reported in 1918 as compared with 1,498 for the preceding year.

Decreases are also shown for the last year in the report of the number of cases of affray, false pretense, forcible trespass, gambling, manslaughter, robbery.

Judge Manning's report contains not only complete statistical summaries relating to the number of crimes committed in the State, but also copies of opinions rendered by the Attorney-General on various legal questions to the heads of the different State departments during the past two years.

NEGRO IS FINED FOR CARRYING A REVOLVER

JACKSONVILLE FLA TIMES UNION
OCTOBER 22, 1919

William Jenkins, a young negro, was fined $100 by Judge J. J. Beckham yesterday morning, charged with carrying a concealed weapon. Not being able to pay the fine, the negro was sent to the city farm to serve 90 days.

John Lucas, a negro arrested by City Detective C. H. Hurlbert, was bound over to county authorities. When arrested he had in his possession some leather which is said to belong to a Cedar street merchant.

Joe McLaughlin, an aged negro, charged with drunkenness, was fined $10.

RICHMOND VA JOURNAL
JANUARY 24 1919

John Jones, colored, charged with stealing a hide, the property of a local business house, was required to give a peace bond of $300. According to Patrolman Con, the prisoner ran right into his arms after the hide was taken. Justice John settled a dispute concerning the ownership of the hide by asking that the hide be kept for himself. "Certainly, no one can get your hide, judge," commented a lawyer.

Crime—1919.

PRISON CORRUPTION CHARGE RIDICULOUS, SAYS FORMER WARDEN AT SPEIGNER PRISON

Montgomery Adv

J. O. Benton, Who Until May 1, Was Prison Warden, Answers Statement of Convict Officials of the State; Allowed Privileges to Bathers

6-23-1919
The Montgomery Advertiser

J. O. Benton, of Union Springs, one of the State's leaders of prison relief in a written statement to the Advertiser takes issue with those contending that Speigner lake swimming and fishing corrupts the morals of the prisoners at the state prison. "During my four years as warden of Speigner's No. 3." says Mr. Benton, "I never observed any effects of 'corruption,' nor did I know of indecencies or immorality by reason of the bathing privilege."

Mr. Benton states that he is at a loss to understand how the conditions could have changed so materially from the time he went out of office, May 1, 1919. Mr. Benton states that during his administration, with the exception of two or three trusties whose duties required them to be on the lake, the citizens of Montgomery who took advantage of the Sunday bathing privileges did not come in contact with the prisoners at all. He says that at least a half mile separated the Sunday bathers from the prisoners.

The former warden's statement is as follows:

"I have just read an article in your paper under the heading, "Bathers and Sunday Fishermen Corrupt Morals of Conivcts," and while I have never been inclined to get my name before the public, and join the ranks of the vox populi,' yet I feel that in justice to myslef, I should reply to this article, in as much as I was warden of Prison No. 3 at Speigner for four years, from May 1, '15 to May 1, '19.

"Time and time again I was censured for instituting pleasures, such as picture shows, base ball and local talent vaudeville shows, which were never known of in the prisons of Alabama until I took charge at Speigner. But I am proud to know that other prisons of the State are instituting the same ideas now, that I put into effect nearly four years ago.

"I enjoy the pleasure of knowing that I organized the Speigner Improvement Club, which was composed of the better class of prisoners, who had the full control and management of the picture shows, vaudeville, base ball and Fourth of July celebrations.

"This Improvement Club raised money with the shows, private subscriptions and donations, with which they bought and paid for moving picture machine, piano, Victrola, baseball outfits and etc.

"I feel that all of those with the few years of work day and night with these prisoners that I should know if the morals of these prisoners were "corrupted." by the citizens of Montgomery who visited the Speigner lake on Sunday for bathing or a little outing, for I had full charge of the prison there and of the State Lake, and bathing was permitted without any restrictions, only that decency and order should be observed. It was my practice to permit the prisoners to take a swim in the lake often, and I have taken as many as fifty at a time down there for this purpose and it was a pleasure and benefit to them.

"In 1917, I had erected a small bath house, for the use of the families of the officers who resided in Speigner, and also for the use of visitors, so far as its limited facilities would permit and during my four years administration I never observed any effects of "Corruption," nor did I know of any indecencies or immorality by reason of this bathing privilege.

"Sunday fishing was never allowed. Some of the best citizens of Montgomery and other surrounding towns would come to the lake for Sunday bathing, and I am at a loss to understand how the moral character of these visitors could change so suddenly, or within such a short time, for up to two months ago, and during the past four years there was no perceptible corruptions of the morals of the convicts through the visiting public. Speigner prison had the reputation as one of, if not the best camps in the State. In fact, with the exception of two or three of the prisoners whose duties required them to be on the lake on Sundays and a few trusties, the visitors would not come in contact with them, unless they came up to the prison stockade.

"This fact alone should indicate how ridiculous is such an assertion as "Bathers Corrupting the Morals of the Convicts," for how could corruption be transmitted a half mile through space, wihout contact or association and get through to the convicts herded behind a high board fence.

"While I was warden at Speigner it was my ambition to work wholly for the State's interests, at the same time be just and accord to visitors the same privileges that I would ask for myself as a citizen of the State. I did all in my power to make better men of the unfortunates under my charge and I still have their interests at heart.

"The article referred to might lead some to infer that I left that institution in very bad shape and permitted this so-called "Corruption" to carry on while I was in charge. This I wish to refute, and would therefore kindly request that you publish this letter, so that my record as a state official and as a proud citizen of the State of Alabama may remain unblemished."

Scathing Report On Convict System Made By Investigating Committee

The Birmingham Age

Legislative Committee Reports Many Abuses of the Convict System and Cites Cases of Gross Inhumanity and Cruel Treatment of Wards of the State

Herald 7-1-19

Alleging convicts have been used for the unlawful transportation of liquor, that they have been unmercifully beaten, often resulting in death, and a great percentage of tuberculosis exists among convicts working in the mines, recommendation will be made by the majorty report of the legislative recess committee on the convict lease system and public highways to the legislature, which meets next week, to take the convicts out of the mine and work them upon the state highways. A minority report will be made also by the committee.

the bills proposing removal of convicts from the mines are being printed and will be ready for distribution as soon as the legislature reconvenes, according to the report of this committee. They recommend a $25,000,000 good roads bond issue for the state.

The majority report covers 24 typewritten pages of legal cap and goes into detail on conditions at the cotton mills, turpentine stills and the mines in which convicts are used. It shows a large number of witnesses were examined, and that several prisons where state and county convicts are confined were examined as to the physical conditions existing.

It is stated in the report that every coal mine, lumber camp, turpentine still and in fact every convict camp in Alabama was visited by the committee, that they observed the feeding of prisoners, the labor required of them and the amount of recreation given. That their examination of witnesses consisted of members of the state convict board, wardens, deputy wardens, guards, the physicians at the camps and the physician inspector, the chaplin and the convicts themselves.

HUMAN SLAVERY

One paragraph of the report states: "The convict leave system in the state of Alabama is a relic of barbarism, it is a form of human slavery. It is next to impossible for the average citizen unfamiliar with the conditions to grasp or comprehend the horrors attendant with such a system. It is hard to describe the cruelties, woe and misery growing out of such a system. Surely we have inherited it from the Dark Ages. No such horrible system could have originated and sprung from any nation or country that boasts of its high and enlightened civilization, that is the pride of every citizen of Alabama."

Another paragraph says: "At one of the turpentine camps, some 18 or 20 miles from Tuscaloosa, located in a dense forest of several thousand acres almost completely away from civilization, convicts are being worked under lease from the state. The superintendent of the lessee, who has the charge and control of these men after they are released from the stockade in the morning until they are returned at night, has been found lying out in the woods in a drunken stupor with a bottle of wildcat liquor in his pocket, and the evidence shows that this same superintendent has been using the state convicts in the manufacture of liquor and the transportation of the same by the state convicts to the city of Tuscaloosa."

The report showed that at this camp convicts were required to rise as early as 3 o'clock in the morning and walk seven miles to their work of scraping turpentine and rosin from the trees and carrying it to wagons 200 yards away at times.

KILLED BY GUARD

One witness' testimony taken at this camp was quoted as follows: "I would go out about 2:30 in the morning and get in from 7 to 10 o'clock at night. We just run from one tree to another. I have seen men run and fall with cramp. If I would be the first up, they would send me to the still. Would wake me up and I would go to the still and I would come back and catch my squad. I have seen convicts killed in the woods at their work. I saw the guard shoot a boy by the name of "Nelse" as he was "dipping" and I was "bunching." The guard had beat him up so that I told them to bring him over and I would dip a keg for him and he said he could not do any more than he had done. He was a boy about 17 of 18 years old and he had been running from one tree to another utnil he had given out, and when they shot him he had set his bucket down and was standing by the side of the tree. I was standing as close to him as from here to the door when they shot him. I have seen them when they would beat convicts up and then pour high life on them."

CONVICTS IN MINES

Continuing the report, it says: "We have found convicts working in the mines where it is four miles to the entrance or mouth of the mines back in the earth to their work. They are given a task and required to get it. They start early and are required to walk to their work down through the rough, wet, dripping slope, and when they have performed their task they have to walk back up the slopes and in some instances almost climb this distance of four miles, with the result that they seldom see the light of day except Sundays.

"Such conditions go almost beyond human endurance, and the strongest and best physical beings cannot last long under such strains. We have found them in mines with faulty tops or roofs, and the records show conclusively that they are maimed and crippled by falling rocks and terrible gas explosions which snuff out the lives of scores almost in the twinkling of an eye.

"At one of the mines we found five men who were apparently big, ablebodied and strong men before they were caught in an explosion, and the skin was almost totally burned from their bodies. They were lying on beds covered with oil cloth with secretions dripping from their burned bodies, scarcely breathing, the most pitiful objects of humanity that human eyes could possibly behold.

"The report shows that it cannot be denied that 90 per cent of the cripples in the convict department come from the mines as a result of falling rock, explosions and numerous other causes peculiar to a coal mine. It is shown that 80 per cent of the tuberculosis patients in the entire convict department comes from the mines."

Statements made by prisoners are embodied in the report. This takes up nearly five pages in quoting the names and the penalties given and where inflicted.

"It should be born in mind that no convicts are sent to the mines unless they successfully pass a rigid medical examination and are found physically sound, and it is from these men that 80 per cent of all the tuberculosis patients are drawn," quoting the report.

Negroes Break Jail After Beating Keeper

N Y Call
JULY 16 1919

HACKENSACK, N. J., July 15.—Two Negro prisoners, George Brown of Newark and William McKinley of West New York, N. J., escaped from the Hackensack jail early today, after they had beaten Kenneth Neyerhoff, vice warden, into unconsciousness.

Soon after their escape word was received that two Negroes had attacked a West Shore Railroad policeman, escaping with his gun.

Campaign For State Memorial Fund Is Now Well Under Way

The Birmingham Age-Herald 7-1-19

Louis Pizitz Makes First Contribution After Opening of Drive—Soldiers in Uniform Asked to Report for Work in the Campaign—Voluntary Contributions Asked for By Committee

The first contribution to the memorial campaign fund in Jefferson county after the formal opening of the drive at the Tutwiler hotel Monday night was made by Louis Pizitz, Birmingham merchant, who turned over to Erskine Ramsay, campaign manager, $500 as his personal gift and $200 as the gift of his employes.

Bright and early this morning the street booths will be opened for the collection of contributions and the signing of pledges to be paid later. These are under the direction of Miss Olivia O'Neal, and two young ladies, accompanied by one returned soldier, will occupy each booth.

The work of the women is well organized throughout the city and county, under the leadership of Mrs. H. E. Pearce, commander of the woman's division, allied armies. The business woman's organization will make a canvass of the office buildings, with Miss Annie V. Lynch in command, and many other subdivisions of the work entrusted to the ladies will continue their house-to-house canvass of city and county.

Mrs. Roy Osborn is in charge of the home visiting workers in West End, Mrs J. L. Smith in Ensley, Mrs. R. W. Waldrop in Bessemer, Mrs. Mabel Avera in Inglenook and a strong organization will keep booths open and other work progressing at Brighton.

Soldiers in uniform who are willing to contribute a part of their time to the memorial cause have been requested to report to Lieut.-Col. Burr Ferguson at campaign headquarters, Rotary club rooms, Tutwiler hotel, at 8:30 o'clock Tuesday morning for important and pleasant work in connection with the campaign.

Local and state committees are urging the importance of voluntary contributions, as a saving of time and the labor of the committees. The drive will not be over in any county, it has been announced, until that county's quota has been raised. The friends of the movement can sped up the finish by sending in their subscriptions and not waiting to be called on.

The different communities can figure their respective quotas by ascertaining the number of their men who entered the service of the United States during the war, at $6 for each man in the service.

Records of colored service men will be kept within the memorial building with the same care and exactness as will those of the white soldiers and sailors, and the negroes are being urged to contribute in proportion to the number of that race who entered the service of the country during the world war.

Speaker Henry P. Merritt of the Alabama house of representatives, author of the memorial bill, which passed both houses without opposition, is giving his entire time to the campaign. He is in Birmingham and will remain here today, assisting Campaign Manager W. S. Stallings at state headquarters.

CRIME AND SELF-CONTROL.

7-6-19 Montgomery Advertiser

The New York Herald moralizes prettily and pertinently on the virtue of self-control. "Many murders and homicides in the land suggest the question whether the rush of modern civilization is resulting in the loss of self-control," says the Herald; "whether future generations are not in danger because of the power of personal passion resulting in an ungovernable temper and in many cases a fatal blow and the gallows, the electric chair, or life imprisonment."

"The rush of modern affairs," continues that paper, "the tremendous nerve strain, the strife for money, the jealousies over possessions, seem to cultivate a loss of self-control that bodes no good to the human race.

But is there less of self-restraint now than formerly? Shall we lay everything to "the rush of modern civilization," and explain away all our faults by charging them to complex social conditions of the time?

Exact data on the subject ought to show fewer crimes of violence, if the bar robbery, than formerly. The duel has gone. There are fewer instances of men taking the law into their own hands than in the days of the old west when there was little law and less machinery for its enforcement on the frontier. Pistol-toting, so popular a generation ago, is not at all popular now, and the young man who goes armed is the exception. First—fighting is far less common than it was a generation ago. Litigation more and more becomes the popular alternative of men in controversy. Newspaper editors are less violent than in the days of Greeley and Bennett and Raymond. These are facts which mark some advance.

On the other hand, however, lawlessness is more common since the close of the war, not only in Allied countries, but in our own country, than it was shortly before the war. Observers have attributed this to reaction from the restraints and trials of war, saying that there is nothing unexpected about it, since lawlessness has followed the close of all our wars. Whatever the explanation, the fact remains indisputable.

But whatever the extent of crimes of violence may be, it does not appear to be a convincing explanation to say that the loss of self-control is responsible for it, it is due to the conditions of modern civilization, if we may make this reservation: Swift and certain punishment of men who slay their fellow men should tend to strengthen their self-control. All too frequently we read of instances of delay in punishment and final escape of criminals from retribution. However reckless the gunman may be in the moment of passion he nevertheless would fear the law of the land if he knew that certain justice would follow the commission of his crime. If laxity in law enforcement is a product of "modern civilization," then modern civilization is indeed open to serious criticism. But lack of self-control is by no means peculiar to the men of today.

N Y C SUN
JULY 16 1919

ATTACK KEEPER AND ESCAPE.

Two Negroes Escape From Hackensack Jail.

Two negro prisoners in the Hackensack, N. J., jail awaiting arraignment on a charge of highway robbery, attacked a keeper there early yesterday and escaped. They afterward overpowered a West Shore Railroad policeman at Ridgefield Park, took his revolver, flashlight and club away from him and continued their flight. The police all over northern New Jersey are seeking them.

The fugitives are George Brown, Newark, and William McKinley, West New York. When Kenneth Neyerhoff, the vice-warden, was making his rounds Brown said McKinley was ill and asked for medicine. When Neyerhoff returned with it and unlocked the cell door the negroes knocked him senseless with a club, bound him and left him locked in their cell. With Neyerhoff's keys they opened and locked behind them all the doors between them and freedom.

NEGRO STRIKES WHITE MAN WITH HAMMER, CAUGHT

ANNISTON ALA EVE STAR
JULY 18. 1919

Considerable excitement prevailed on West Tenth street at noon Friday when Will Goosby, a negro, struck W. T. Spicer in the forehead with a heavy hammer during the progress of a row between the two men, inflicting a bad cut over the white man's left eye.

The negro ran after striking the white man and was chased for several blocks by a rapidly increasing crowd of men and boys and was finally overhauled near the car barn on Sixth street. The negro was turned over to Officers Deason and Dill and an additional warrant charging assault was sworn out before Judge Thomas W. Coleman, Jr.

KANSAS CITY MO TIMES
JUNE 27. 1919

Arrest Hotel Employee for Robbery.

Edward Lane, a negro employee of the Midwest Hotel, 1927 Main Street, was arrested yesterday by patrolmen from the Nineteenth Street Police Station, on the complaint of J. M. Kelly, whose room at the hotel was entered Tuesday night and $65 stolen from a handbag. A negro maid at the hotel is said to have told the police she had seen Lane in Kelly's room.

COLORED SOLDIER IS PUT ON GANG

UNION S C TIMES
JULY 19, 1919

Lem Norman, a colored soldier out on furlough from Camp Lee, Virginia, was arrested yesterday on main street by policeman H. H. Willard, upon the charge of carrying concealed weapons. When asked to give his authority for carrying a gun, he showed a permit from an officer to get transportation but no such instrument as one authorizing him to carry a gun. Policeman Hicks told him he would have to go before the chief of police and explain. Norman then said, "to hell with the chief of police," and attempted to load his gun. When brought up for trial he was charged with two additional offenses: Making an assault and resisting arrest. He was given a fine of $150 or thirty days on the gang. Late yesterday afternoon he was carried to the gang.

CINCINNATI O TRIBUNE
JULY 20. 1919

PLEA OF NEGRO WOMAN LIGHTENS PUNISHMENT

Fine of $10 Remitted When She Tells of Long Stay in Jail.

A sentence of one hour in the United States Marshal's office was imposed upon Tennie Saul by Judge Hollister in the United States District Court yesterday. The negro woman was charged with shipping liquor from Dayton, O., to Flint, Mich. She admitted the charge. Judge Hollister first imposed a fine of $10 upon the woman. She then petitioned the court for a little time in which to pay the fine. "I have been in jail two months," she said.

"If that is the case, the Court's order then is that you be confined in the Marshal's office for one hour and then released," Judge Hollister said.

GRAND JURY TO PROBE KILLING OF CONVICT

Montgomery Advertiser 7-22-19

Judge Leon McCord Charges Body to Investigate Shooting of Will Pulliam

The Mont Advertiser

Again charging the newly drawn Montgomery county grand jury Tuesday, Judge Leon McCord called the members' attention to the recent killing of Will Pulliam, a city negro convict, by B. Shelley Powell, a guard. He requested the grand jury to investigate the killing, also to visit the farm, which is run by L. W. Hunter, and look into conditions of convicts there.

Mr. Hunter runs a farm near the city and gets convicts from the city, with which he has a contract for the labor. A number of city prisoners are constantly at work there.

It will be recalled that Powell claimed to have shot the negro in self-defense, and only after the man had struck him with a pair of steel handcuffs. When the case came up in the court of common pleas, from the evidence submitted Judge Winter Thorington decided it was a clear case of self-defense and released Mr. Powell. Coroner W. S. Stokes had previously been out to the farm and rendered a verdict of justifiable homicide.

The grand jurors Tuesday were busy examining a long list of witnesses. A large proportion of the people waiting to be called at the court house appeared to be negroes. It is thought the grand jury will hold its session throughout the remainder of the week.

Crime - 1919.

Oklahoma.

MONTGOMERY ALA. ADVERTIS
JULY 1, 1919

NEGRO FOR WHOM WILSON INTERVENED MUST HANG AUG. 15

Supreme Court Affirms Death Sentence of Sergeant E. C. Caldwell

Unless Governor Kilby should decide to take official action in behalf of Sergeant Edgar C. Caldwell, an eventuality which is considered extremely improbable, Caldwell will pay the extreme penalty for the murder of Cecil Linton, an Anniston street car conductor, for which he was convicted in the Calhoun county circuit court. A jury found the accused guilty of murder in the first degree and the death penalty was imposed by the presiding judge. Caldwell appealed to the Supreme Court of the State. That tribunal announced Monday that the judgment of the lower court was affirmed and August 15th has been fixed for Caldwell's execution.

Shot Two Men.

The murder of Conductor Linton, which occurred in Anniston, December, 1918, created a profound sensation throughout the state. It is alleged that the negro sergeant, then in the military service of the United States, boarded an Anniston street car and became involved in an altercation with Conductor Linton. Linton, after a few minutes had elapsed, called for the assistance of the motorman, and together they forcibly ejected Caldwell from the platform of the car. Immediately thereafter, it is stated, Caldwell drew a pistol and fired twice at the two car men. One missile struck Conductor Linton in the head inflicting a wound which resulted in death a short time later. The second bullet lodged in the motorman's neck wounding him painfully, and it was at first believed mortally. He later recovered, however.

President Intervened.

Following the imposition of the death sentence upon Caldwell by the Calhoun county circuit court, Chicago negroes appealed to President Wilson and asked him to intercede in behalf of the condemned man. President Wilson wired Governor Kilby immediately, requesting that the sentence of death be suspended until the attorney general of the United States could investigatte the case. In the meantime, however, Caldwell took an appeal to Supreme Court and the President was informed by the Governor that this action automatically held the sentence of death in abeyance until a decision was announced by that body. This appeal was denied in the opinion handed down Monday.

Other decisions announced by the Supreme Court Monday, follows:

McCLELLAN, J.—

Ben F. Barbour vs. D. J. Pencelor. appeal from Jefferson circuit court; affirmed.

Edgar C. Caldwell vs. State of Alabama, appeal from Calhoun circuit court; affirmed; August 15, 1919, set for execution of sentence.

Folmar Merc. Co., vs. Town of Luverne, appeal from Crenshaw circuit court (in equity); affirmed.

MAYFIED, J.—

Albert F. Wilson vs. Montgomery Bank and Trust Company, appeal from Montgomery circuit court; reversed and remanded.

Ex parte State of Alabama, ex rel. J. Q. Smith, Attorney General, petition for writ of prohibition; writ denied.

Ex parte Frank Rickerson, petition for certiorari to the Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit; writ awarded.

SAYRE, J.—

Clyde Hendrix vs. Henry Francis, appeal from Morgan circuit court (in equity); affirmed.

SOMERVILLE, J.—

J. K. Everett vs. Julia G. Pickens, et al., appeal from Covington circuit court (in equity); affirmed.

J. M. Elledge, et al., vs. Ferinand Funke, appeal from Colbert circuit court (in equity); reversed and rendered.

THOMAS, J.—

J. J. Potts vs. Court of County Commissions of Concecuh county, et al., appeal from Conecuh circuit court (in equity; affirmed.

John Frazier vs. State of Alabama appeal from Bibb county circuit court (in equity); reversed and rendered.

Rulings on Applications for Rehearing June 30, 1919.

Southern Railway Co. vs. Norborne R. Clark, et al., appeal from Mobile circuit court; application overruled, opinion changed.

Winter-Loeb Grocery Co. vs. L. H. Boykin et al., appeal from Montgomery circuit court, overruled.

Bolon Houston. et al., vs. The State, appeal from Henry circuit court; over ruled.

Ray C. Irby vs. Commercial National Bank, appeal from Barbour circuit court (in equity) overuled.

Sacred Heart Church building committee et al., vs. H. T. Manson, appeal from Cullman circuit court; overruled.

Er parte J. J. Stanley, petition for certiorari to the court of appeals application for rehearing overruled.

J. T. Hancock et al., vs. C. C. Hullett, appeal from Blount circuit court overruled.

Sam Huey vs. G. H. Dykes, Admr., appeal from Jefferson circuit court; overruled.

A. B. and A. Ry Co. vs. J. A. Ballard, appeal from Jefferson circuit court (Bessemer Div.) overruled.

John H. Minge vs. W. C. Clarke, appeal from Jefferson circuit court; overruled.

Majestic Coal Co., vs. S. E. Anderson, appeal from Jefferson circuit court (in equity); opinion modified and application overruled.

Ex parte Joseph Franklin, petition for certiorari to court of appeals; application for rehearing overruled.

H. R. Screws et al vs. John W Wall et al., appeal from Blount county circuit court; overruled.

D. C. Finney vs. A. W. Newson appeal from Madison circuit court; opinion modified and application overruled.

Clyde Hendrix vsfl Henry Francis appeal from Morgan circuit court (in equity); overruled.

Harvey Carden vs. The State, appeal from Jackson circuit court; over ruled.

Trustees of Cumberland University vs. Daisy Caldwell et, als., appeal from Jackson circuit court (in equity); placed on rehearing docket by the court; application granted and judgment affirmed in part and in part reversed and remanded.

Ex parte J. Morgan Flowers, petition for certiorari to court of appeals application for rehearing overruled.

NEGRO'S EXECUTION MAY BE POSTPONED

Anniston, Ala., July 11.—(Special.) Unless the state supreme court should meet in special session to act upon an application for a rehearing in the case of Edgar Caldwell, negro soldier charged with killing Conductor Cecil Linton last December, the negro's execution set for August 15, will be postponed.

Ex-Senator Charles D. Kline, of Anniston, and Judge Basil M. Allen, of Birmingham, attorneys for Caldwell, have filed application for a reeharing of the Caldwell case. The filing of the application will act as a stay of execution, and as the supreme court is not taking its summer recess action on the application cannot be secured before the day set for the execution.

Bartlesville, Okla., Jan. 18.—Following a bitterly contested legal fight between the county attorney's office and two colored lawyers, one being W. H. Twine of Muskogee and the other E. T. Barbour of El Reno, lasting the greater part of three days, Will Wirdlow, colored, who last summer shot and killed the Chier of Police at Dewey, four miles north of here, was today found guilty of murder and sentenced to life imprisonment. It is generally believed by those who heard the case that the hard fight made by lawyers for the defendant saved him from the electric chair.

Wirdlow shot and killed the Chief of Police at Dewey and wounded another white man after they had assaulted him. His plea was self-defense. Following the killing a mob formed and marched on the colored section of the town and burned 12 colored homes. The editor of this paper at the time telegraphed a vigorous protest to Governor Williams, starting an investigation which resulted in the arrest of 40 members of the mob, including the mayor of Dewey.—Tulsa Star.

Crime - 1919

Tennessee.

NEGRO SENTENCED TO DIE FOR MURDER

Maurice Mayes Found Guilty By Knoxville Jury of Murder of White Woman

The Montgomery Advertiser

(Associated Press.)

KNOXVILLE, TENN., Oct. 4.—Having had the case under advisement for the brief period of eight minutes, the jury which on Wednesday began hearing the murder charge against Maurice Mayese, indicted for killing Mrs. Bertie Lindsey of this city on the night of August 28, returned a verdict of guilty of first degrees murder at a few minutes before 5 o'clock today.

Mayes who has maintained the most perfect appearance of calm since the trial began, when he realized this afternoon what the verdict meant, said to those who had helped in the trial:

"I want to thank you all for what you have done for me, but I don't want you to get it into your head that I am guilty of the crime. I'm just as innocent as you, Sheriff Cate, and I want to proclaim standing here that I did not commit the crime. It is simply a case of prejudice."

Motion for a new trial in the case will probably be heard the first of the week and in the event the motion is overruled the case will go to the supreme court which convenes in Knoxville Monday.

An outstanding feature of the final day of the trail which was devoted to argument was the address of Ex-Mayor S. G. Heiskell, a leading criminal lawyer who has been named by Governor A. H. Roberts as special prosecutor. Mr. Heiskell declared during the course of his appeal that there is in America at the present time less respect for the law, courts, judges and law and order than ever before, excepting perhaps after the long and bloody Civil war. Referring to the mob violence which is prevailent over the country he told the jurors that it was in their hands whether the world goes onward and upward or whether all respect for law is abandoned and the world degenates into a band of rapists, anarchists, robbers and cut-throats.

Former Attorney General Ruben L. Cates opened the argument for the defense this morning and was followed by Attorney General R. A. Mynatt. The close for the defense was made by L. C. Houk.

NEGRO MURDERER TO BE ELECTROCUTED

10-18-19

The Montgomery Advertiser

(Associated Press)

KNOXVILLE, TENN., Oct. 18.—Marrice F. Mayes, who slew Mrs. Bertie Kindsey, when he invaded her home at night August 25, the crime resulting in the storming of the Knox county jail by a mob bent upon lynching him and subsequent race riots was today sentenced to electrocution on November 28 within the prison walls at Nashville, his motion for a new trial having been over-ruled this morning by Judge Nelson, of the criminal court.

Out Only Eighteen Minutes, Returns Verdict Charging Murder In First Degree.---Attorneys For Defendant Will Ask For New Trial.--- Accused Maintains Innocence

The East Texan News

10-9-19

Eighteen minutes after the papers in the case of Maurice Mayes, young colored man, charged with the murder of Mrs. Bertie Lindsey, white, were handed to the foreman of the jury in criminal court last Saturday afternoon, the jury returned with a verdict, announcing to the court "we find the defendant Maurice Mayes, guilty of murder in the first degree."

Mayes, who showed signs of the ordeal through which he had passed, manifested disappointment at the verdict. He immediately made a statement maintaining his innocence of the crime charged against him. "I wish to thank you who have done so much for me," he stated. "Before God, I am perfectly innocent of the crime."

Motion For New Trial

Counsel for Mayes immediately entered a motion for a new trial for Mayes and the argument in the same will be heard, possibly, by Judge Nelson on next Saturday morning. It is stated that several witnesses will be introduced that may shed additional light on the case in behalf of the defendant.

Sentence has not been imposed upon Mayes, but will be imposed, if the motion for a new trial is overruled, and after the motion is disposed of. Should a new trial be denied, the court will then announce the date for his execution.

Will Appeal To Supreme Court

In the event Judge Nelson should deny Mayes a new trial, the case will be carried to the state supreme court, that began its session in this city on last Monday.

The crime which resulted in the arrest and trial of Mayes was committed about 2 o'clock on the morning of August 30, when the Lindsey home, on Eighth avenue, was entered and Mrs. Lindsey was killed when she resented the attempted criminal assault upon her. Mayes was arrested within about one hour after the crime having been suspected from the description given of the murderer by Miss Ora Smyth, a cousin of the murdered woman, and an eye-witness of the heinous murder.

Miss Smyth later identified Mayes, declaring that she was absolutely positive of her identification. She said that the Negro's face was within three feet of her at least two times, and that she could plainly see his face by the reflections from the flash light, as it shined upon the large mirror, the white bed clothing and the light colored wall paper. The assailant was un-masked.

Mayes, however, entered a flat denial of all the charges made against him, and put up the claim of an alibi. He introduced witnesses showing where he was up until 12:30 o'clock that night. This, however, had not been questioned by the prosecution. He claimed, however, that he went to his home after that time, and slept until awakened by the officers about 3 o'clock.

Similar Crimes Since Arrest of Mayes

The counsel for Mayes, in their argument before the jury, referred repeatedly to the several other crimes which were very similar to the one charged to Mayes. In one case, according to the statement of a white woman whose home was entered on Boyd street and at which time she was shot by the intruder, who "looked to be a dark skinned white man," the statement was made by the assailant, "if you make an outcry, I'll shoot you like I did that other 'boy.'-" No boy is known to have been shot and it is thought that the intruder said boy instead of woman, in the excitement. The lawyers contended that when the police apprehend the party or parties guilty of these crimes, that there is little doubt but that the perpetrator of the crime at the Lindsey home will be found.

Crime—1919

Washington.

SEATTLE W P INTELLIGENCER
JANUARY 21, 1919

SEALS FATE IN SEVEN MINUTES

Negro Is Found Guilty of Brutal Assault Upon Woman and Child.

GIVEN 20-YEAR SENTENCE.

Attack Upon Defenseless Victim Characterized as Worst Case Ever Before Court.

Seven minutes after the case of Collins Robinson, 20-year-old negro, charged with robbery, had gone to the jury in Judge Boyd J. Tallman's branch of the superior court yesterday afternoon he had received a sentence to serve from twenty years to the remainder of his life in the state penitentiary at Walla Walla. Judge Tallman characterized Robinson's attack with a razor upon a defenseless woman and baby as the worse case before him in his eighteen years on the bench.

Mrs. Florence Gage, 2522 East Pine street, Robinson's victim, will bear through life the scars inflicted by Robinson with a razor upon her face and arms when he robbed her of $80.50 at her home on December 10. Mrs. Gage was found terribly mutilated by the slashes of the negro's razor. Her baby was lying on the floor beside her with four of its teeth knocked out.

Just Leaving Home.

Just as she was leaving her home with her baby in a buggy, Mrs. Gage was accosted by Robinson, who first asked her for an address and then sought permission to use her telephone. As she stepped back into the house to allow him to do so he attacked her. One ear was nearly severed, and in attempting to ward off the blows her hands were nearly cut through. Presumably she fell to the floor with her baby in her arms, the child's cries being stopped by a blow either from the fist or foot of the thug.

Robinson had been released the day before from the city jail. At that time he had $1.10 on his person. An hour after the crime he was arrested in the south end of the city with considerable money on his person and a new suit of clothes. Some of the currency found on him had blood spots on it. When he was taken before Mrs. Gage she instantly identified him as her assailant.

Jury Out Five Minutes.

The jury was out not more than five minutes or long enough to take a ballot. When the verdict of guilty was returned Attorney Robert H. Lindsay, counsel for Robinson, waived the motion for a new trial and asked that his client be sentenced immediately.

"The circumstances of this crime are the most revolting, and the enormity of this offense is greater, than in any case, not excluding murder trials, before me in my eighteen years on the bench," said Judge Tallman. "I am in noway influenced by the fact that this defendant is colored in imposing sentence. I sentence you to serve from twenty years to the remainder of your life in the state penitentiary at Walla Walla."

Alabama

Hospitals—1923

Crime — 1919

DR. J. H. KELLEY MAKES A FINAL REPORT ON THE MRS. JONES MATTER

The Voice The People.

And To Stop The Unwarranted Arrests Of Negro Women In The City Of Birmingham

2—14—19

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 12, 1919

Editor Voice of The People:

In making the final report of my efforts to help Mrs. Maggie Jones, and to stop the persecution of Negro women in our city, I submit herewith a brief history of what I have done and tried to do. My attention was called to this matter last fall, and by continued efforts and the assistance of others such results as I am able to report have been obtained. I owe the generous and encouraging public a brief mention of how and what has been done. After I talked with Miss Bessie Jones, who had been arrested on the streets of Birmingham for nothing, I expressed this cruelty through the press (both white and colored papers). We then began a campaign with four ends in view: First, to refund the $40 Mrs. Jones had been made to spend in securing the release of her girl; second, to rebuke this treatment of her daughter by putting her in school; third, to obtain some funds to combat similar cases, which at that time were expecting to occur; fourth, to stop the unwarranted arrest of colored women and girls.

In undertaking the above, I wish to acknowledge the helpful suggestions and co-operation of the many friends, white and colored. I made known my plans on Thanksgiving Day to the principals of our city schoo high school teachers. We we very much encouraged by he suggestions and sympathy of these able and untiring workers for the uplift of our people. We published our plans through the kindness of the colored press, and was soon able to give the public a partial report, which showed that our first object in the campaign had been accomplished, that of refunding Mrs. Jones her money.

The same partial report shows that we were able to put on a campaign to sell twenty-five thousand tags.. For the amount raised, expended and the donors, see partial report as it appeared in The Voice of The People. It took more time and effort to get the tags out than we had thought, but by the first of January we had them very nearly all distributed in the county. We then turned our attention to getting Miss Bessie in school. Rev. Dr. Johnson, of the Birmingham Ledger, and myself, prevailed with Mrs. Jones to let Bessie enter the city schools, either one of her choice. I assured Mrs. Jones that all of Bessie's expenses would be promptly met, but all the doctor and myself could say did not prevail with Mrs. Jones. She felt that Bessie should go to a boarding school. After some days I met Principal Davis and his good wife, Madam Davis, the matron of Birmingham Baptist College, and I laid the matter before them and the following letter tells of the results:

Birmingham Baptist College,
Birmingham, Ala.
January 23, 1919.

Dr. J. H. Kelley,
Dear Sir:

I am writing you con cerning the little Miss Bessie Jones, for whom you have had a campaign on to raise funds to put her in school. We are all interested in the campaign and have wished you much success. Professor Davis and I have been especially interested in assisting you to get her ready to enter school.

I have visited her mother twice; also I have visited the girl twice, and have done what I could to encourage them to let her enter school. I have made the necessary preparation here that she may enter school. After you gave me the checks with which to pay her board, tuition and to get the necessary clothing for her to enter school, I have visited them and explained to them that I had all the necessary funds to prepare her to enter school I am very sorry to tell you that her mother would not agree to accept the offer for some reason I failed to find out, only she was not ready to accept the offer of the public to support her child in school. So, you will find enclosed in this letter the two checks that you gave me for her board, tuition and clothing. I am returning them to you.

We hope that some day in the near future that her mother will be encouraged to put ther daughter in school and to take advantage of the opportunities given her.

Yours very truly,
NEVADA DAVIS,
Matron.

On receiving the above letter from Madam Davis, I gave up my second object in the campaign and sent those who had large numbers of tags for distribution a copy of Mrs. Davis' letter and the following letter from myself:

Birmingham, Ala.,
January 28, 1919.

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter sent to me by the matron of the Birmingham Baptist College. As the contents will show, I don't think I would be justified in receiving any money with the hope of getting Miss Jones in school. I have tried to make it plain to the community I wanted to do four things in this matter: First, was to refund Mrs. Jones her $40.00. Second, to put Miss Bessie Jones in school as a rebuke for the treatment she received. Third, to have some funds on hand to help other similar cases. Fourth, to break up unnecessary persecution of Negro women.

The first aim has been accomplished, and Mrs. Jones has received $50.00. The letter of the matron will show the result of the second object. The third object in view will possibly take care of itself when the occasion arises. The fourth has been overwhelmingly successful.

In the face of the above I feel that I have done my humble duty in the entire matter. I want to thank you for taking some of the tags for distribution. You may do as you feel best with whatever money you have on hand. If you like to give it to Mrs. Jones, it is all right with me, or if you wish to apply it to other charities it will be all right.

Again thanking you, I am,
Yours truly.

(Signed) J. H. KELLEY.
521 S. 19th St.

It was my purpose to have a great public meeting, at which time report of tags would have been made and a committee of citizens to handle the funds appointed, but since all ends but one had been secured—that of getting Bessie in school, I felt such was unnecessary in the light of Mrs. Davis' letter. Those who have volunteered to make a partial report of their tag money before receiving my letter are as follows:

Rev. Mr. Orr, $4.10.
Rev. H. A. Sims, $3.90.
Mrs. A. Howard, $3.40.
Members of Council of Defense, Bessemer, $2.80.
Promiscuous in small amounts, $4.90.
A total of $19.10.

Disbursements since my partial report, referred to above, are as follows:

To amount subscribed to me reported as subscribers for publication in Birmingham Reporter, but not yet collected, $16.95.
To Stenographer and postage, $7.35.
Total, $24.30.

Hence, the refunding of Mrs. Jones' money, the stopping of the persecution of colored women has been fully accomplished, so there is no need of a fund to help similar cases, as there will be none. The efforts of Dr. Dozier, Mr. L. K. Plosser and Mr. L Block greatly assisted in bringing the overthrow of the reign of terror. Dr Dozier's strong letter, Mr. Block's advice and encouragement, and Mr. Plosser's work and advice before the grand jury and with Solicitor Tate all had telling effect. The Birmingham News published our letter prominently, and gave to the cause a most telling editorial, in which it fearlessly condemned the mistreatment of colored women and girls. Strong editorials of The Voice of The People, The Baptist Leader and The Birmingham Eagle. Many ministers and influential men and women in both races have done all in their power to help us overthrow this cruelty. All agencies which have helped in any way are hereby sincerely thanked.

J. H. KELLEY.
521 S. 19th St. Phone Main 8241.

COLORED PEOPLE ARRAYED AGAINST WAVE OF CRIME

The Birmingham Ledger
2/15/19

BIG MASS MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONTGOMERY MEMORIAL

At the regular semi-monthly meeting of the Birmingham Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, matters of civic interest occupied most of the time allotted for discussion.

The first matter to claim attention was the wave of crime, especially the stealing and robbery so prevalent within the limits of Greater Birmingham.

It was decided that all the preachers in the Birmingham District and surrounding vicinity, shall take up the matter and preach sermons bearing on law and order in every pulpit, and that public expression should be given through the newspapers stamping their disapproval and proffering in any way possible to aid in puttting down such lawlessness.

The attitude of street car conductors and motormen toward colored passengers came in for a share of disapproval. That some of the friction on the cars is caused by improper conduct on the part of some of our people was not denied, and the Alliance was unanimous in pledging itself to use their pulpits to teach the ethics of conduct in public places and especially on railway cars and street cars. They endorsed the idea expressed in the Birmingham Reporter of having the exact fare ready on street cars and stating clearly where the passenger wishes to go and asking for transfer forthwith and having no further words for the conductors.

The meeting listened to report of the committee entrusted with bearing the memorial to the governor and the legislature. The work of the committee was enthusiastically endorsed and a big mass meeting is to be held Thursday night, March 27th, to which all the preachers are to invite their congregations. The purpose of the mass meeting is to give public demonstration of the kindly attitude of the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house, the leader of the senate and the committe on rules.

The further purpose is to push the subject matter of the memorial before the public and to urge further consideration at the hands of "the powers that be."

A suitable program will be rendered on the night of the big mass meeting, Thursday night, Feb. 27.

WORK OF CONVICT BOARD FOR 4 YEARS SHOWN IN REPORT

(By J. HOWARD FORE)

One among the last official acts of Governor Henderson before retiring as chief executive of the State of Alabama was to order a social survey made of the several departments of state as well as those departments which were adjunct to but not wholly a part of state government.

For the past several years there has centered about the convict department much interest, this being the greatest financial project of state government, and with the assistance of Hastings H. Hart, of the Russell Sage Foundation, an exhaustive investigation, without cost to the state, was made which will be presented to the public along with other investigations, at an early date in pamphlet form. The booklet will prove interesting and instructive and should be read by every voter and tax payer in the commonwealth. Regarding the convict department, Dr. Hart says in part as follows:

"The convicts of Alabama are of two classes: State and county. The State convicts are under the care of the Board of Inspectors of Convicts, one of whom is the president of the board and the chief executive officer; another is a physician known as the associate inspector, whose chief duty is to examine incoming convicts and to decide as to their fitness for work. He has supervision also of the medical work in the different camps.

"County convicts again are divided into two classes, those who are worked within the county and those who are contracted for work outside of the county. Those who remain within their own county are entirely under the control of the County Board, without any State supervision. Those who are leased out to contractors outside of the county are subject to the inspection of the Board of Inspectors of Convicts, which board receives report as to the work and treatment of such convicts.

"I comend the excellent system of bookkeeping which has been adopted by the present Board of Inspectors, whereby a monthly balance sheet is made up for each prison camp, showing its exact financial condition, and public property is duly accounted for. Such bookkeeping promotes honesty and faithfulness, and is well worth all that it costs.

"I commend also the practice of making daily settlements with the State Auditor, whereby all interest on the convict income goes directly to the State.

"The "State Prison Inspector," who works under the State Board of Health, has authority to inspect and condemn county jails and city jails, but has no authority to inspect or report upon county convicts of either class.

Old Lease System

"Alabama is one of the very few states which still retain the convict lease system, this system having been abandoned, I believe, by every state except Alabama, Florida, and North Carolina.

"Formerly, under the lease system, the lessee paid a fixed sum per month for the labor of each convict and became responsible for boarding, clothing, guarding, disciplining and doctoring the convicts. The state turned over to the lessee all of its responsibility for the prisoners who were reduced practically to condition of slavery. State inspectors visited the camps from time to time and were supposed to protect the rights of the prisoners; but the supervision was superficial and inadequate. It was for the interest of the lessee to get as much work as possible out of the men, and in many prison camps it was a common thing for prisoners to receive corporal punishment for "failure to perform task." The guards were ignorant and undisciplined, and there was a constant tendency for them to become cruel. Prisoners were frequently shot by nervous and excited guards while attempting to escape.

"The wardens were men of moderate ability, working for small pay and they were judged according to their success in getting the largest amount of labor with the smallest expenditure. Prisoners usually received a sufficient quantity of food, but it was usually poorly cooked and badly served. The medical service was often inefficient; hospital accommodations were absent or very poor, prison buildings were of a temporary character, badly built and unsanitary.

Modified Lease System.

"The convict lease system as maintained by the Board of Inspectors of Convicts, has been greatly modified so as to do away with many of its objectionable features. Under the present system in Alabama the lessee no longer feeds and clothes the prisoners. The state appoints a warden for each camp who hires and controls the guards. The state provides food, clothing, bedding and medical attendance. In all of the camps except three mining camps, the state provides guards over the prisoners while they are at work; but under the three mining contracts the lessee takes the prisoner at the mouth of the mine and is responsible for him during the working hours. When the prisoner comes out of the mine he is turned over to the state guard, who takes care of him until he goes to work again the next morning.

"In Alabama state convicts are leased in three coal mining camps, but the system has been so greatly modified from former methods that it has been claimed by some that the lease system no longer exists; but this contention can not be sustained because two essential conditions of the lease system undeniably exist: first, the labor of the convict is sold to contractor and the products belong exclusively to him; second, in the coal mines where the leased prisoners are employed, the prisoners are taken out of the custody of the warden and his subordinates, working hours and are under the direction of the employees of the contractor.

Health Conditions.

"Notwithstanding the excellent sanitorium at Wetumpka for tuberculosis prisoners, the death rate from tuberculosis and pneumonia is still very high. In four years ending 1914, 42 per cent of the deaths were from tuberculosis and pneumonia; and in the four years ending 1914, 44 per cent.

"The deaths from typhoid fever are remarkably uniform, averaging four per cent for each of the four year periods. I learned that typhoid fever was prevalent in some camps at the time of my visit, and was surprised to learn that the earlier practice of innoculating for typhoid fever had been abandoned.

Decrease in Prisoners

"The number of prisoners in the county jails of Alabama September 13, 1915, was 1,424; September 15, 1917, 765, a reduction of 46 percent. In the city of Birmingham a jail was built about four years ago for county prisoners serving sentences. In 1915 this jail contained about 350 prisoners. I visited the jail in August, 1918, and found it standing deserted and empty. The prisoners have been transferred to the old city jail, which contained between 40 to 50 prisoners, less than one-seventh of the population three years ago. Since that time the jail has been turned over to the juvenile court and is being refitted to provide court rooms, a detention home, and special schools for truant and backward children.

"In Mobile county I visited, in October, 1918, two road camps, and found 28 prisoners instead of 50 to 60 prisoners, which was formerly the number. The prison population would be still further reduced if it were not for the number hwo are sentenced for offenses against the prohibitory law. Public officials complain of the lack of sufficient prisoners to do the public work, but this is a loss which the people of the State will endure with great philosophy.

State Account System

"The cotton mill at Speigner and the State farms are worked on the State account system. The cotton mill has not always been profitable, but at the present time, it is bringing in a large revenue to the State.

"The mill employs 155 convicts and the profits for the current year ending September 30th amounted to $277,000.

"The superintendent of the mill appeared to be earnestly interested in the prisoners. The stated that in his judgment the labor of the prisoners was worth fully 80 percent of the labor of free operatives. On that basis, according to the wages paid outside labor, the prisoners must have been earning for the State at least $2 each per day. I saw negro women free laborers at Chickasaw who were earning $2.50 and were probably not more efficient than the men and women employed by the cotton mill.

"The most objectionable feature of the cotton mills was the association of white men, negro men and negro women in the same s___ and the same room. This arrangement is contrary to law and contrary to the regulations established by the Board of Inspectors. (Rule 33.)

"The cotton mill has earned $227,000 net the past year by the labor of 155 convicts, which is at the rate of $1,450 per convict. I doubt whether that record has ever been equaled by any similar institution. Alabama can afford to take care of the Speigner prison and the Speigner prisoners; she cannot afford not to.

Prisoners Profitable Asset

"The State prisoners are a distinct asset to the State, as is seen by the fact that, leaving out of account the 750 prisoners who are physically or mentally unable to earn anything for the State, the remaining 2,250 turned into the State treasury during the past year $750,000 over and above the cost of their maintenance, an average of $333 per man.

"We must not lose sight of the fact that if these men are of value to the State in prison, they may be of much more value after their release. The man who earns $3 a day in prison can earn $4 per day out of prison, which will be used in supporting his family and meeting his obligation as a citizen.

"The Board of Inspectors of Convicts has a large responsibility. They have under their care about 3,000 convicts, located in 10 or 12 different camps. They have also a degree of responsibility for county convicts who work under the lease system. They are responsible also for shaping the general policy of the state with refernce to convicts. They have authority to buy and sell land, to organize new plans for employing prisoners, to make and cancel contracts at discretion, and even to open and develop coal mines on state lands, if they deem it expedient.

"The Board of Inspectors controls the income from convict labor. They turned into the state treasury in 1917 $1,717,000, and in 1918, $2,115,000, and produced a net revenue, over and above the cost of maintaining the convicts of $506,000 in 1917 and $775,000 in 1918.

"The most important duty of the Board of Inspectors is to establish such reformatory methods as shall return as many as possible of the prisoners to society with such improvement of character, as shall make them law-abiding, industrious and useful citizens. This involves the establishment of Sunday schools and night schools, industrial training, wholesome recreation, decent living conditions, classification of prisoners so as to prevent the contagion of vice and to establish a wholesome and cheerful spirit among the prisoners."

While the report goes into detail and covers practically every part of the convict department, Dr. Hart is especially loud in his praise of the work accomplished by those in charge of the department for the four year period just closing, complimenting them highly for their efficiency in handling the state's business and for their generous treatment of the unfortunates who were confined within the penitentiary, mines, etc.

To the present legislature this distinguished social student makes the following recommendations, and while the body has not acted officially on any, yet it is understood that many these reforms will in all probability be instituted before the next four year period shall have elapsed. Following are the recommendations as made by Dr. Hart:

"1. The passage of an act for the establishment of an adult probation system similar to the probation system already established for juvenile delinquents.

"2. An act establishing the indeterminate sentence and parole system along the lines already developed by the governor through the use of conditional pardons or paroles.

"3. The establishment of a system of probation and parole officers to supervise adult prisoners placed on probation or parole.

"4. The abolition of all county camps and all leasing of county prisoners and the commitment of all prisoners sentenced for thirty days or more to the state penitentiary.

"5. Legislation for the abolition of the system of leasing prisoners for coal mines, turpentine camps or other work, as soon as other provision can be made.

"6. The establishment of two state farms, one for men and one for women on land of good quality, not subject to floods and with first-class farm machinery, tractors, etc. The dormitories and domestic department should be of the type found at State Farm Number Four, but the buildings should be of better quality. Concrete floors should be used throughout.

"7. The reconstruction of the prison and cotton mill at Speigner in accordance with the recommendation of the president of the Board of Convict Inspectors."

After having visited the convict departments of at least fourteen other states, Dr. Hart states that Alabama ranks among the first in the care of her prisoners, and that while there are many needed reforms, yet the state as a whole was above the average in the treatment of unfortunates who were confined in such institutions.

NEGRO FINED ON CHARGE OF THEFT

ANNISTON [illegible] STAR
FEBRUARY 10, 1919

Suspected of stealing from the Swift Company, by whom he was employed, Cain Robertson, a negro, was arrested Friday night by Detectives Haley and Wade, who were watching him, just as he had laid hands on 10 or 12 pounds of breakfast bacon he is supposed to have previously concealed under a platform in the rear of the Swift plant.

The negro was unaware of the presence of the officers until their own flash light revealed their presence.

The negro was convicted of the theft Saturday in police court and fined $50 and cost and given a street sentence of 30 days.

Crime – 1919

THE RECORDER

Little is to be gained in the interest of law and order by vindictive and ill tempered remarks from the benches of our courts, such as have frequently been attributed to Recorder Schwarz in the past few weeks, in cases where the issues were between white and Negro people.

In a certain clash between a white woman and a Negro woman, who engaged in a regular woman's dispute around a bargain counter in a crowded store, the recorder is credited with having given a general invitation to white women to bring before him their complaints against Negro women who "talk back," or make an equivalent "offence"(?)

In a more recent case, his observations regarding a clash between a street car conductor and a Negro passenger, of which there are a great many these days, the recorder is credited with stating, that the conduct of Negroes on street cars is becoming intolerable, and that he meant to put a stop to it, in so far as his authority extended.

In these cases where the judicial temper becomes uncontrollable and unjudicial, excessive fines usually result.

Justice is blind, in fiction if not in fact, and vindicitiveness and distemper and racial contempt have no place on the bench.

In a recent editorial of this paper, styled "The Negro and the Courts," we announced our pride and fortune in the unswerving fairness of the higher courts of this jurisdiction. We could not then, as we cannot now, include the recorder's court.

Recorder Schwarz rides in an automobile. He seldom rides in a Savannah street car, and more rarely, still, does he ride on the western lines where situations brought on by varied construction of the seating law, arise.

He has been hearing only the side of the conductors. He does not know the extreme provocation in these cases, caused by the impatient, ignorin and harsh manner of the car crews in the discharge of their duties. He does not know that a great many conductors regard Negro passengers as riding by sufferance. He does not know how often in these disputes, the motorman runs into the car, controller in hand, threatening to brain some defenseless Negro man, woman or child.

If he wishes these facts, we can furnish them from cases which have occurred in the past few months, since the cars haveb been handled by these inexperienced men from the hinterland.

Perhaps, under information, he would hav a different attitude of mind on these questions.

Anyway, the above method of treating this matter does not get us any nearer the peaceable solution of these problems of race relationship. Every occurrence, coupled with rasping rebuke and excessive penalty, aggravates the situation and puts the question further from solution.

Much as shall be the suffering of colored folk; harsh as may be the dealing with them by the bench; these questions must eventually be settled right. Thinking people must be conscious of the inevitable change which must come about, costly and painful as they shall be to Negro people who hael the position of advantage.

Negroes have got to be treated better all over this country, not because of any result of war, not because of any vague or impossible social construc not because of any academic construc tions of this new democracy, but, simply and sufficiently, because it is right.

The straws blow that way.

PISTOL TOTERS

The fact that Savannah has escaped all show of mob violence and lynching, when these outbreaks have been occurring all over the coutry and in every vicinity, has been a matter of pride to this city and to its people. The word has gone out that Savannah citizens are law-abiding and that this city is the very best of the south.

There is cause for apprehension and alarm, however, in the fact that hundreds of irresponsible young white men of this city, including many street car men, are found to be carrying guns on their hips every day. There are frequent clashes on the street cars due to the impatience and impetuosity of these gunmen who man the cars the fact that he carries a gun makes the car man more reckless.

There has been gun play, bordering upon the serious, upon several occasions, and if we are ever to have to contend with the mob, it is going to most likely start on the street cars where Negroes are driven and dogged every day, for little or nothing.

We are in imminent danger from these pistol-toters, and unless the vigilance of the law makes these reckless men put down their guns, or the public opinion rises up to counteract the spirit of lawlessness and relieve the tension of the times.

The police power should detect and punish the pistol toter. The street car company should hire only sensible law-abiding men.

A great many towns do not allow the sale of fire arms. Some states prohibit their sale altogether, and these have very little of riot and murder. If a man has no ready pistol, he is a hundred times less likely to start trouble; if he has one on his hip he is little less dangerous than a magazine.

A few nights ago, a white man, almost without provocation, flashed his gun and shot several times over the heads of Negro passengers on the Isle of Hope car. Several windows were shattered and one Negro passenger struck in the eye by flying glass. When the conductor was later interrogated, he denied all the facts. Here was the spark of mob flame. Let Savannah arise and save herself!

THE GUNMAN A MENACE

We have spoken much of the menace of the gunman to the community, but so serious does this matter seem to us in view of the frequent show of pistols on many young men of late we do feel that we can condemn the gun-toting habit any too often. The pistol-toter has caused wide-spread damage, trouble, sorrow, apprehension and death time and again in this section, and no steps have been taken to get rid of him and hence he has continued, endured and increased. So far as we know, the heavy hand imposed by Judge Schwarz in a concealed weapon case is the only positive act to reduce this evil. On the other hand, a great many things have occurred wich would be calculated to inspire and increase the habit of pistol-toting, and which unfortunately have attained that result.

On every hand one runs across the youngster, impatient and hot-headed and taking unwarranted and excessive liberties with the rights of other people, simply because of his gun. It has been observed that many of the street-car operatives are armed. One can see the guns sticking out of their pockets. And the street car is the most fruitful source of trouble we have. Much of this street car imposition on colored passengers could be avoided, and would be, if the overbearing conductor was not armed. His temper would be much less violent if he did not have recourse to a deadly weapon.

We do not know whether the car company officials sanction this pistol-toting, but we do know that these men have caused the company no little trouble; that many times they have flashed or threatened to draw their guns; that they curse and abuse Negro passengers for nothing; and on one occasion, at least, in the past a conductor of the company shot up a car, incidentally killing an innocent white woman in her home before which the car was passing.

It is inconsistent with law and order that these men and others should be allowed to stalk through a civilized community like this, armed as if momentarily expecting attack. It inspires unrest and fear and hate. It makes the other fellow more desperate from fear. It will lead to serious trouble, a thing we all want to avert.

Pistol-toting is unlawful, seriously unlawful. Most of these men carrying concealed weapons have no authority to do so, have not met the necessary legal requirements permitting them to carry arms.

The police authority know this, and should enforce the law, along with Judge Schwarz.

PORTERFIELD HURRIED TO WETUMPKA PEN

Robert Porterfield, the negro who was convicted Monday in the circuit court and sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of Policeman Earl Davis, shortly after midnight of the same day was removed to Wetumpka and placed in the penitentiary. Sheriff Scoggins and deputies took the negro over there in an automobile, meeting with no demonstrations on the way.

The case aroused a large amount of interest in the city.

Photographs from Press Illustrating

How Georgia Builds State Roads

Convicts from the Atlanta prison are sent out under guard to do the heavy work of road-building and road mending in Georgia. To minimize the danger of escape each gang is watched by a prison guard with a shotgun and a blood hound, and the men wear th distinctive prison stripe

Crime – 1919

Wallace Sims Charged With Perjury.

Wallace Sims, once deputy and political leader, was indicted by the grand jury for perjury and fraudulence in the last state election. Sims at one time was janitor at the County Court House, a position honored by colored politicians. By some means Sims lost out an dis now Pullman porter. Attorney General Geo. Chamlee will very vigorously prosecute the case.

Theodore Raspberry, the 14-year-old son of Mrs. Lucy Raspberry, was beaten until unconscious on last Sunday night a week ago by some half grown white boys who were encouraged and urged on by some grown white men. This boy was later carried to the hospital, where he is being treated by the city physician, who is said to be giving him only salts and pills without any results of his injuries.

This is a sad case, and one that should be looked after by the proper authorities and the guilty parties punished. It is false that the guilty ones are not known. If it had been the reverse, some one would have suffered for it before now, and as it is no one is concerned about the matter.

Thompkin Chapel, A. M. E. Zion Sabbath School on last Sunday was indeed very good. Our school was blessed with the presence of Dr. J. B. Hankal, Rev. E. J. Jones and others.

COMMITTEE ASKS REMOVAL OF SEVEN CAMP OFFICIALS

Brutal Treatment of Convicts at Several Mining Camps Charged

CONVICT BOARD IS BUSY

Working to Bring About Better Sanitary and Working Conditions

Charging brutal treatment of prisoners, a resolution has been forwarded to Governor Thomas E. Kilby by the Joint Recess Committee of the House and Senate on Convicts and Roads, asking the immediate removal from office of seven officials of various convict camps near Birmingham.

The men whose discharge from the convict department is requested are: Warden Steele, at Dixie Camp No. 2, Warden Jernigan and Deputy Warden Langley of River Falls, Superintendent Smith, Warden Fountain and Yard Sergeant Taylor at the Banner mines; and Deputy Warden Frazer at Belle Ellen.

The joint committee has been in the Birmingham district for a week. Saturday they held a special session, drew up resolutions calling for the removal of the men named, and so notified the Governor.

Conditions at the Flat Top mines were said by the members of the committee to be excellent. The warden at that place was highly praised for his good and humane services.

The legislative committee making the inspection which recommended the removal of the camp officials is made up as follows:

House of Representative members, J. W. Green, Dallas county, chairman; George Ross, Jefferson county, Thomas E. Orr, Marshall county; W. J. Densby, Choctaw county; John Arnold, Jefferson county. Alabama Senate, John Rogers, Sumter county; John Craft, Mobile county, and M. L. Leith, Walker county.

Visiting all Camps.

Members of the committee announced when they set out on the trip of inspection that they were very much dissatisfied with conditions they had seen in a few camps visited, but were warm in their praise of the prisons at Wetumpka and Speigners. These places, they said, left little to be desired in cleanliness, care of prisoners, work done and the treatment of the inmates.

As a body, in small groups and singly, the members of the committee have visited the camps, taken notes, compared them and now they are taking definite action.

The committee members have conferred as a committee with the governor and have taken up phases of the situation with him individually. They say Governor Kilby is heartily in sympathy with their efforts for improvements and economy, and it is known that the governor is thoroughly in accord with the work being planned by the state board of convict inspectors.

Board At Work.

While the legislative committee has been at work, the newly organized state board of convict inspectors has been reorganizing the department and re-arranging things for better conditions, but having the actual engineering of the big department to personally look out for, the three members, one of whom was only appointed a day or two ago, could not possibly get around to all points in the way and in the time at the disposal of the legislative investigating committee.

Saturday morning members of the board had taken up the matter of food for the prisoners. The week before clothing had been selected and bought for many camps. Individual attention is to be given the case of each prisoner in the matter of nourishment.

After Feeding Problem.

So that each prisoner will get enough, but not more than enough, of wholesome, properly prepared food, C. B. Rogers, chairman of the state board of convict inspectors, is delving deep into the subject of feeding prisoners.

On his recent tours of inspection he has questioned the prisoners, and made note of what they told him. He has questioned what the officials of the camps have told him. He has carefully studied the reports from other states; and reports from various penitentiaries and reports from the army camps and reports from the feeding of armies in the field, where men do hard work.

His plan is to get all the data available of an authoritative nature, then to consult the various physicians of the convict camps in Alabama, as to just how much protein, fat, carbohydrate and all the rest of it that each man needs.

His survey of the food situation will also take in its bearing on the kind of work the prisoner is doing and the men will be fed accordingly. A daily report will be made out at each camp and sent in. From these reports Mr. Rogers will be able to put his finger exactly on the spot where a weakness of any sort may appear. He will have chart sheets giving plain comparisons of the feeding of the men in twelve camps, the total being over 2,000 people being fed.

In this way the board expects to protect the prisoners and see that they get all that is coming to them in the way it should come and to protect the best interests of the state from this double angle.

THE CAUSE OF CRIME.

The Fulton county grand jury for the spring term at the conclusion of its sessions reported to Judge Humphries that nearly all the homicides and murders which it had investigated "were the direct result of the unlawful possession of concealed weapons, together with the illegal possession of and indulgence in intoxicating liquors."

It recommends that the penalties provided for such offenses "should be made severe enough to remove, so far as possible, the menace they bring to the peace and safety of the citizenry."

The jury, which was composed of some of the most prominent, public-spirited citizens of the county, recommended that the legislature at its session this summer enact a law making the illegal carrying of a concealed weapon a felony instead of a misdemeanor, as at present, and providing that the sale of firearms should be restricted by a clause in the law providing that before a would-be purchaser be allowed to buy a deadly weapon he be compelled to give bond against his putting it to an improper use, and that even then he must procure an official permit to carry it.

Such a law, with a severe penalty clause applying also to the vendors as well as to the purchasers of pistols, could do no possible harm and undoubtedly would serve as an effective deterrent to what has become one of the most pernicious crime incentives in Georgia.

Whisky and the hip pocket pistol go hand in hand in their relation to crimes of violence, but two distinct acts of legislation are required to enable the authorities to cope with them.

The blind tiger evil is adequately covered by statute, the only deficiency being that the law is not adequately enforced rather than upon any fault in the law itself.

Give the authorities an equally stringent pistol law, then let the public compel the enforcement of both laws, and it will be seen that crime will quickly diminish to a minimum.

But a law that is not enforced only clutters the statute books, breeds disrespect for all law, and is worse than no law at all. A disregarded law is a detriment rather than a benefit to society.

Ty Cobb Brutally Assaults Woman

Ball Player Kicks Chambermaid Down Flight of Steps

Detroit, Mich., May 2.—One of the most brutal assaults ever reported in this city occurred a few days ago in the Ponchartrain Hotel, one of the leading resorts of the city, when Tyrus Raymond Cobb, a baseball player on the Detroit American League team, kicked Mrs. Ada Morris, employed as chambermaid, down a flight of steps. Cobb, before finishing his attack by kicking the woman down the stairs, knocked her in the stomach several

times and injured her to such an extent that she is now confined to her home in a serious condition. The attending physician stated to a Defender representative that Mrs. Morris will be unable to leave her bed for several weeks. She is internally injured.

Kicked Down Stairs

The trouble arose when Cobb asked the woman from what state did she hail from. The woman stated she was from Pennsylvania. Cobb replied, "There never was a Nigger like you from Pennsylvania." Mrs. Morris objected to this remark. Cobb forthwith plunged into the woman, showering blows upon her head and body. She attempted to fight back, but was overpowered. It is claimed that after beating her he dragged her to the hallway and kicked her down the stairs. At 10 o'clock the following morning relatives of the woman went to the police court to obtain a warrant for Cobb's arrest. The bailiff stated that it was "impossible" for Cobb to commit such an act and that a warrant could not be obtained at that hour.

Story Is Suppressed

Every effort has been made by authorities connected with the Detroit Baseball Club to keep the story of Cobb's brutality suppressed. Not a white daily newspaper carried the story, although Cobb is one of the best known characters in this city. A meeting was recently held at the Biltmore Hotel and a committee was appointed to see that Cobb was brought before the bar of justice. Funds have been collected to employ attorneys to bring a damage suit against the ball player. This is not the first time Cobb has inflicted injuries upon women of our Race. It is claimed that while he was a member of the Augusta (Ga.) ball club of the South Atlantic League his conduct at the ball park was the occasion for several unpleasant happenings.

PHILADELPHIA PA PRESS
MAY 3 1919

CRIME AND THE COLORED MAN.

To the Editor of "The Press."

Sir:—Would you be kind enough to run this little item in your paper for the moral good of the citizens of the great city of Philadelphia and most especially for the citizens of color? It is painful and yet true for me to obligate myself to be responsible for said article nd yet somebody must do it for which he same person must be responsible.

Having read a number of articles hrough your paper in reference to the careless and immoral life lived by my people that causes much criticism upon the whole race, it suffices me to say that the prime cause lived and practiced by my people is that we are without constitutional rights and privileges to the extent that we are not allowed to minister the law upon the crooked and corrupt practice among ourselves but must call upon the whites to do that for us and that it is best that we should. Because I have my serious doubts whether a sufficient number of us can be found to administer said law that is, who are intelligent enough and morally brave enough, but in the meantime when we call upon you to administer the law, you go about it in a reluctant and indifferent manner to the extent that the good negro gets the worst of it and becomes discouraged in the prosecuting of evil and crooked life lived and practiced among us. For this I am sure that the white man is responsible, in that, that he does not put himself in touch with the real condition of the negro, but sits back in his palace and upon his throne and takes the word of the corrupt negro who chances to have a few dollars and perhaps a political pull.

When I speak of the corrupt negro, I am not speaking of what you would call the out-spoken sinner, the club room owners, nor the saloonkeeper particularly but of the corrupt church negro sometimes pastors as well as people, who seem morally to be Christians but whose Christianity only consists in many cases of churchanity and corrupt combination for the purpose of extorting from the simple, their money for his support. But any white community who will allow immoral organizations practice right in their nose by my people that breeds bigamy, and common law living in the name of Christianity, you may rest assured that you are encouraging theft, rape and murder for which you cannot escape responsibility, for the religious practice of an immoral congregation in a neighborhood whether it be white or black will poison the entire city or community and, therefore, the citizens ought not tolerate a negro preacher any more than a white preacher pastoring a church on one corner and owning and running a gambling house on the other. It is dangerous, yes, it is dangerous, and while the church and State should remain separate, the church should not be allowed to poison the stream for the State.

P. P. SAMUEL.
Baptist Preacher.

Philadelphia, April 26, 1919.

COMMON JUSTICE SAYS WHITE FRIEND

The Birmingham Reporter
5-3-19

HE WRITES AN INTERESTING LETTER REGARDING CONDITIONS IN THE SOUTH AS THEY RELATE TO THE NEGRO.

Editor of The Ledger:

Ifwe of the south really desire to stop the exodus of our Negroes to the north, we must do most of the following things:

We must assure him that he is going to be given the equal protection of the law. That he shall be deprived of neither life, liberty nor property except by due process of law. We must assure him that when a member of his race is accused of crime he will be given an impartial trial in a court of justice, and not burned or shot full of holes, at the hands of a mob. We must assure him that, as he goes forth and, by the application of brawn and brain, creates property, that that property will be afforded the equal protectoin of the law. We must assure him that all the powers of our state government stand ready to protect the most humble black man in the enjoyment of his just rights. We must assure him that all the powers of our state government stand ready to protest the most humble black man in the enjoyment of his just rights. We must assure him that when designing and scoundrelly white men impose upon him, that they will be punished to the fullest extent ofthe law for their fraud and imposition. We must assure him that when he obeys the law and makes a good citizen that our race appreciates that and respects him as a good colored man.

We must remember that the white laborer and the colored laborer have very much in common; and that as we strive to make better the conditions of the white laborers, we must not lose sight of the true interest of the colored laborer; for in the last analysis they both stand or fall together.

Those vampires in every large city of the south that suck the black man's blood—the loan sharks and the confidence concerns—must be legislated out of existence. The educational and moral status of the black man must not be forgotten by our race. We send missionaries to Africa and far off India to help people far more unworthy of our assastance than our Afro-American friends.

Finally, we of the south must always remember that we are Americans. That we are citizens of the greater republic, whose mission is to carry liberty and justice to all the world. Let any and all narrowness north, south, east and west cease to have any domination; and let us of the south make these great states washed by the tepid tepid waters of the gulf, the safest and best place in all the world for the colored people to live.

Whenever we convince the colored population of the south that they are going to be given justice and protection, and a square deal at our hands, then the exodus to the north will forever ecase and not until then.

Yours for real old-fashioned Americanism as broad and as deep as the whole republic.

W. E. TUMLIN.

Birmingham Ledger, April 29.

The Increase of Crime.

The Rochester Herald 5-5-19

"There is no crime or criminal class in Rochester. * * * What few cases of lawbreaking we have are seldom the work of seasoned criminals. As in the case of Policeman O'Brien, it was a mere boy who fired the shot. Because two of our best policemen have been killed recently, it is no sign that crime is on the increase, or that it is possible for it to flourish here because the police force is 59 men short of its quota." With these words of consolation Chief of Police Quigley seeks to allay the feelings of anxiety that are widely pervasive in Rochester since the murder of Officer O'Brien by the confirmed and hardened young ruffain, whom the chief indulgently describes as a "mere boy."

It is not only the shocking murder of two brave policemen, but the appalling number of other crimes, such as burglaries and highway robberies, committed with impunity week after week and month after month, which convince the public that police protection in Rochester is largely a myth and a delusion. The career of the murderer of Policeman O'Brien affords ample proof of the breakdown of the police department as a safeguard of life and property, if other and more cogent evidence were not obtainable.

This young gunman—of the type that has become famous in New York and Chicago—went forth equipped with an arsenal of murderous weapons. He did not set out to emulate the good deeds of the exemplary heroes of the Sunday school leaflets, but to commit burglary and, if caught in a tight place, murder. He succeeded in thirteen burglaries, failing in only one, beside the one to which a civilian fortunately came to the aid of the hitherto helpless police. Had it not been for the unexpected interference of this civilian, it is reasonable to suppose that the miscreant would still be going out evenings, unmolested by the police, to rob, rifle and plunder.

This may not be an instance of hardened criminality," as that term is used in the vocabulary of the police department. But it comes within that category as the public classify crimes. And the record of this thief and murderer shows beyond contradiction that crime can multiply pretty fast in Rochester, with the criminals about as indifferent to the operations of the police as the police are to those of the criminals.

PORTSMOUTH VA STAR
MAY 8, 1919

NEGRO CARRYING KEYS TO A CELL OCCUPIED BY WHITE WOMEN IS UNDER WHITE DEPUTY

In regard to the charges made by the Y. M. C. A. Religious Secretary and the Housewives [illegible] to the effect that a negro man carries the keys to the cell occupied by two white women prisoners, it is stated at the jail that the negro in question is under the supervision of a white deputy, and that he only has the keys in the day time. It is further stated that the arrangement is only temporary.

Woman Refuses to Sue Ty Cobb

The Star
5-7-19

Mysterious Forces Play Havoc With Justice in Detroit

(By Century News Service)

Detroit, Mich., May 9.—The expenditure of a very small amount of money has freed Ty Cobb, a baseball player on the Detroit American League team, from being prosecuted in the criminal court for the assault on Mrs. Ada Morris, 258 Mullett street, which occurred in the Ponchartrain hotel, a fashionable white resort here. It appears that the Morris family, hypnotized by the sight of a few silver dollars, scorned all help and absolutely refused to file criminal charges against Cobb. Up to the present time not even an arrest has been made. Cobb has been permitted to go about his duties on the ball field unmolested, while the woman, badly bruised and suffering from a kick in the stomach, remains at her home under the care of a physician. It is probable that serious complications may result from the kick Mrs. Morris received.

Refused Help

Following the attack on the woman a committee composed of ministers and lawyers offered their services, but were turned down. The committee consisted of Rev. T. D. Scott, Rev. R. I. Bradby, Attorneys Samuel G. Thompson, Robert J. Willis, Charles H. Mahoney and Benjamin F. Lester. The reason given by the Morris woman for not prosecuting the ball player is that "too much publicity and a court trial may hurt Cobb's good reputation." From information it appears that Cobb's act has caused a lot of "mit greasing" to be done. The white press of this city has been gagged. Not a word of the beastly assault was told to the public through these channels.

Irishman in Case

Shortly after the attack occurred at the hotel an Irish employe remarked: "If that roughneck had kicked a woman of our race down a pair of steps he never would have played another game of ball in Detroit or any other city." The assault was made when Cobb asked Mrs. Morris where was her native home. She replied, "Pennsylvania." Cobb said: "There never was a nigger like you from Pennsylvania." He was right. Subsequent events have proved his statement.

Crime – 1919

As we go to press word has been received that nine more of these colored men have been arrested and placed in jail on the charge of "beating board bills."

Robert Comer or Conner and John Miller, two colored men are now confined in the Knox county workhouse, having been committed to that institution by 'Squire Frank Dobson on the charge of Deputy-Sheriff Henry Wilson, an officer of the law of Knox county, and charged with beating a board bill. The arrests were made by Constable Arthur Wells.

The East Tenn. News. 3-26-19.

The facts in the case are, Comer or Conner and Miller were members of a transportation that was collected at Cincinnati by some unknown labor agent. The agent is said to have misrepresented conditions to the men by telling them of high wages and excellent conditions that did not exist and when the men reached their destination and discovered the misrepresentation, they decided to return to the Ohio city or seek employment elsewhere, locally. While enroute to this city from Cincinnati, they had been given two small lunches to appease their hunger and when they signified their intention of leaving the transportation party in charge of the labor agent, DEPUTY-SHERIFF Wilson proceeded to the office of Esquire Dobson, procured warrants for the men charging them with beating a board bill and is said to have furnished as evidence against them the eating of the two lunches on the train while enroute and the men were arrested by Constable Wells. on Wednesday, March 5th.

Not being able to make bond the men were remanded to the county jail and remained there until March 11th, during which time they employed counsel to defend them in the criminal court. On Tuesday, March 11th, by some legerdemain the men were taken to the county workhouse, there to work out the fine and costs in the case against them to which they deny having submitted.

Officer Wilson Prosecutor

The warrants at the office of Esquire Dobson show that Henry Wilson, a deputy sheriff of the county is prosecutor in the cases. The question in the minds of the citizens of the county is under what circumstances does this officer of the law appear as prosecutor of these men, in view of the fact that he does not conduct a boarding house.

Grand Jury in Session

The cases were out of the jurisdiction of the magistrate, due to the fact that the grand jury was in session. The question further arises, why is it that these men were kept in jail from March 5th until March 11th and then as it appears, were "railroaded" to the workhouse.

If the accused were guilty of beating a board bill, where is the proprietor of the boarding house and why does it become necessary for an officer of the law to appear in the role of a prosecutor in the cases?

Cases Called to Court's Attention

The attention of Judge Nelson is directed to these conditions as referred to above, where these men are arrested and an effort is made to hold them in peonage.

Other cases are known where men who have been brought to the city on misrepresentations as to wages have decided to leave and when arrested, rather than be railroaded to the workhouse, agreed to "submit" and the labor agent secures the fine and cost. The individual is then sent to some one of the plants where the labor agent gets his fee and the poor Negro is made to work out the fine and costs and no one knows how long he is held in peonage.

Denies That They Submitted

Robert White, alias and Will Crawford, two other colored men held on the same charge of "beating a board bill" were interviewed at the county jail last week by a representative of The News. They denied that they ever submitted to any charge, but mitimusses are said to have been issued from the court of Esquire Adam Meek, committing them to the workhouse.

Semblence of Fee Grabbing

For several months, fee grabbing in the county seemed to have been on the decrease, but this effort on the part of the officers as referred to above, demands the attention of the court and an investigation is asked for by The News. The attention of Sheriff W. T. Cate is also directed to the action of one of his deputies in prosecuting the cases against the men on the charge as outlined above.

TWO NEGROES KILLED IN FIGHT NEAR CHURCH

ATLANTA GA CONSTITUTION
JULY 5, 1919

As a result of a desperate battle in front of the St. Maria Baptist church near the corner of Fort and Decatur streets about 6:30 o'clock Friday evening, a negro known as "Knot," was killed, while his assailant, Harry Johnson, died at the Grady hospital a few minutes later from a bullet wound near the heart Johnson severed "Knot's" jugular vein, while the latter shot his assailant.

Police headquarters was notified and several patrolmen under the direction of Captain W. M. Mayo rushed to the scene. They found the body of "Knot" in the rear of the church, where he had fled from Johnson, who was found dying in front of the church. Officer Powers placed the dying negro in an automobile and rushed to the hospital. According to the police, the fight started when Johnson caught "Knot" walking down the street with the former's wife.

Chateau-Thierry and for his gallant service there was awarded the distinguished service cross.

Commander of Legion.

Besides the American decoration he was honored by the French government by being made a commander in the Legion of Honor, also he wears the French and Belgian Croix de Guerre. He is one of the few American officers to be elected to the rank of Knight Commander, Order of St. Michael and St. George. This is one of the highest honors to be conferred by the British government, and were General Lewis an Englishman he would be entitled to the profix Sir.

He is a grand officer of the Order of Danelo, this being a Montenegrin decoration. Also he is a commander in the Order of Leopold, the highest honor which can be bestowed by the Belgians.

After being relieved of duty in the Second Division, General Lewis was made commanding officer of the Thirtieth Division, and remained in command until that famous division returned home. He then was transferred to General Pershing's headquarters at Chaumont, and was president of the Infantry Board in the office of chief of staff.

Praises American Troops.

General Lewis was in command of American troops in France from December 1, 1917, until May 5, 1918. He stated that he never saw a more orderly or well disciplined lot of troops in his life.

General Lewis graduated from West Point in the class of 1886, and at the outbreak of the late war was a colonel of infantry. After being promoted he first commanded the Thirty-Ninth Division at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, and while there received his overseas orders.

Mrs. Lewis will arrive in Atlanta next week to join her husband.

Major General Sturgis, who is succeeded by General Lewis, left several days ago for his new command

EGAL ARRESTS AND SEARCH.

3-22-19.

The illegal and unconstitutional arrest and personal search of Mr. John M. Bradley, in Birmingham, by officers seeking violators of the prohibition law, has aroused a storm of protest in that city and incidentally drawn attention to the cusom, not only in Birmingham but in other cities of the State, of making personal searches of individuals without a search warrant.

Every lawyer and most informed men know, that a man's person and effect are guarded from search without a search warrant having been first sworn out, but in the enforcement of the recent extra-constitutional laws, for catching violators of the prohibition laws, law officers, spurred on by the hope of the promised large fees, have repeatedly ignored the constitutional rights of Alabama citizens. It is a satisfaction to those who believe in individual liberty, and who believe in the protection of individual rights as they are guarded by the constitution, to see that Birmingham at least has been aroused to a resentment of the repeated violation of the constitution. In making search and seizures without a search warrant, the officer looking for his big fee, excuses himself by saying that he is sworn to enforce a statute, and admits at the same time that he is violating the constitution which he also swore to uphold.

The Birmingham News, which has gone out to stop the dangerous practice of the fee hungry officers, said of the commission of the city of Birmingham, who is in charge of the Police Department, "He cannot afford to wink his eye at a custom that violates the constitution which he has taken an oath to obey, nor to permit overzealous officers to seek special rewards by illegal methods."

It is not pleasant to reflect that the row would not have been raised in Birmingham, unless the police had arrested a young man of standing and influencial connections. The police, day after day, had been conducting their unconstitutional and illegal searches, but as long as the men wronged were inconspicuous, and without influence, but little notice was taken of the police who made their own laws and gave their own interpretation of the constitution. Mr. Bradley was a lawyer, with influential connections, and when he was the victim of the usual police wrong, he had the courage to stand up for his rights as an American citizen. The wrong done him was particularly flagrant.

His father had died a few days previously, at his country home. Mr. Bradley the day following the funeral had gone to his father's country home, assembled the effects he left and packed them on a truck for transportation to his city home. When, with the truck he entered the city, he was followed by two plain clothes officers, who were out to make the big fee, for arresting violators of the prohibition law. After the larger part of the city had been crossed Mr. Bradley was halted by the officers who had followed him; they announced their purpose of searching the personal effect carried by Mr. Bradley.

As a lawyer Mr. Bradley knew the men had no right to search him or the truck without a warrant and he stood on his rights. The police officer immediately put him under arrest and directed him to drive to the police station. There he again objected to the search; he was put under arrest on the convenient charge of "disorderly conduct" and the search was made. A friend, summoned by telephone, secured his release from the illegal arrest. Mr. Bradley, the following day, demanded a hearing in a police court, where it developed that not only was his arrest and the search illegal, but that he had with him no intoxicants of any character.

The incident naturally attracted the attention of the newspapers and Mr. Bradley himself made a public statement as the officious zealousness of the police officers, both on the streets and at the police station, who sneered at any poor "boob" who thought he had constitutional rights in Alabama. Police and city officials can defy the constitution with impunity, but they quail before public sentiment. An aroused public sentiment demanded action on this typical act of a sustained program of official wrong doing and the two officers were called up for a hearing.

It can be said to the credit of the city commissioners, that they took their share of blame for the happening and that they refused to "pass the buck." The officers had acted according to the orders of superior officers who were carrying out the direction of the city commissioners, and they were restored to duty. But the people of Birmingham were not ready to let the case drop; they have not dropped the case yet. They demand of the city commission and the police department, "Why do you continually violate the constitution which you were sworn to uphold? How can you justify yourself in depriving a citizen of Alabama of his constitutional right."

The city commission, it announces, is deliberating upon its future policy; it had found the custom of making illegal arrests and searches justified in the past, as being "necessary to prevent the wholesale entry

of contraband liquor." The chief of police wonders why any row should be raised at all because citizens are deprived of their rights under the constitution "When a man is pleasant about it and does not get mad when a policeman wants to search his property for liquor there is no trouble," says the chief of police. Certainly not—the Belgians who surrendered completely and let the German invaders walk over them gave no trouble.

Any man who can see an inch before his nose can plainly perceive the inevitable trouble that is coming, if fee hungry officers continue to go out to humiliate citizens of Alabama and regard the constitution of Alabama as "a scrap of paper" in perpetrating the wrong.

Following the exposition by The News in its issue of last week of the efforts of local justices of the peace and deputy-sehriffs to hold innocent Negro men in peonage by trumping up charges of "beating board bills" against the men, Esq. W. F. Yardley, prominent local colored barrister, called to his assistance Attorneys John A. Huff and Harrison B. Brown, other members of the local colored profession and through a habeas corpus proceedings instituted by these attorneys, sixteen of the men who had been arrested during the last few weeks, four of whom had been "railroaded" to the workhouse, were ordered brought before Judge Thomas A. R. Nelson, of the Knox county criminal court on last Saturday morning at 10 o'clock, for the purpose of giving the jurist an opportunity to pass upon the matter as to whether the men were being unlawfully denied their freedom.

The East Tenn News. 3-27-19

As the result of the investigation, during which time it was only necessary to examine a few of the accused men, Judge Nelson announced to the council representing the corporation and their agents seeking to hold the men in custody, that there was no evidence whatever presented that would justify his holding the men and ordered all of the sixteen immediately freed.

Following the judge's decision, the men crowded to the bench to extend thanks to the fair-minded jurist who decided their case from a standpoint of justice and as they cleared the court room smiles were on the faces that only a short time before had been adorned by a sad expression as the result of their having been confined in the county jail and that without their having been guilty of any offense.

POSTPONE CASE

Although it was announced that the hearing would be held before Judge Nelson at 10 o'clock Saturday morning, when the attorneys for the sixteen men announced their readiness to go into the case, Messrs. J. Alvin Johnson and McConnell, who had been employed by the corporation and their agents, requested continuance of the case until 2 o'clock the same afternoon and this request was granted.

Promptly at 2 o'clock Judge Nelson took his seat on the bench and the sixteen Negro men were marched into the court room under heavy guard. A motion to dismiss the appeal for the writ of habeas corpus was entered by Attorney Johnson and much time was consumed in the discussion,, the contention of the defendants being that a jail or workhouse mittimus is conclusive. Judge Nelson ruled that a mittimus does not preclude an investigation of a person being illegally deprived of his liberty and that the investigation would begin.

CHARGED WITH "BEATING BOARD BILLS"

Deputy-Sheriff Henry Wilson, said to be in the employ of the Mascot Zinc Mining Co., located in the eastern part of the county, appeared before Esquire Frank Dobson, a local justice of the peace, as prosecutor of Robert Comer and John Miller. Notwithstanding the fact that he is an officer of the law in the county and does not own or conduct a boarding house; he applied for warrants charging the men with "beating board bills" and the warrants were placed in the hands of Constable Arthur Wells. The men were placed in jail on March 5th, after being told that they were bound over to criminal court, and remained there until March 11th, during which time they employed counsel to defend them in the criminal court. On the latter date through some legerdemain they were again taken before Esquire Dobson, and although the grand jury was in session, which under the law the justice can only send cases to that body or discharge such cases, the two men were committed to the county workhouse. Comer and Miller swore at the hearing before Judge Nelson, that they did not submit to the charges against them.

OTHER ARRESTS

Several days following these flagrant miscarriages of justice, Robert White and Will Crawford, two other colored men that had been brought here by labor agents under base misrepresentations, were arrested, haled before Esq. Adam Meek and before they could secure legal aid, were rush to the workhouse on the charge of "beating board bills."

NEWS MAKES INVESTIGATION

The News hearing of the arrest of the men referred to above, made investigations and before the exposition of the deplorable conditions could be made Deputy-Sheriffs Ceph Remine and Rice Witt, the latter a recently discharged policeman, had corralled nine other Negroes without warrants, haled them before a local magistrate from whence they were committed to the county jail.

EFFORTS IN BEHALF OF MEN

Following this action, a petition was drawn by Attorneys Yardley, Huff and Brown, and a writ of habeas corpus was issued.

INVESTIGATION BEGINS

At the Saturday afternoon hearing before Judge Nelson, Willie Young, who gave his home as Nashville testified that he had arrived in the city only a few hours before being arrested and was eating in a restaurant when Deputy-Sheriff Rice Witt accosted him and placed him under arrest without producing a warrant. The counsel representing the officers were forced to admit that they had arrested Young through a mistake.

Frank Stokes, the next witness told of the officers arresting him on Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock never acquainting him with the charge against him.

Others of the men told of having been coerced into joining a transportation gang with promises of high wages and excellent accommodation at the Mascot plant, only to find upon arriving there unsanitary conditions and low wages. Two of the men who decided to leave by walking down the railroad toward Knoxville, were accosted by two of the deputy-sheriffs, at the point of pistols and taken before the magistrates where warrants were sworn out charging them with "beating board bills" at the Mascot Zinc mines.

HAD NEVER SEEN MASCOT

Robert Makin testified to having come to the city from Lansing, Tenn., where he had been steadily employed as a section hand and as soon as he reached the city, he was arrested by one of the officers. He swore that he had never even heard of Mascot, which statement was not denied. Makin was also released after the counsel admitted that he had been arrested through a mistake.

JUDGE NELSON STOPS INVESTIGATION

The investigation was suddenly brought to a close when Judge Nelson announced from the bench that no evidence that had been presented was sufficient to warrant his holding the men in custody and promptly ordered the discharge of the sixteen men. Thus the rotten practice which borders on peonage, which has deprived many innocent, illiterate Negroes of their freedom and caused their incarceration in the Knox county workhouse, was brought to an end.

PRAISE FOR JUDGE NELSON

The fair element of the citizenship in general and the Negro race of the county in particular have been active since the decision of Judge Nelson in expressing appreciation for his guidance of justice in the manner as outlined above.

At the evening service last Sunday of Logan Temple Church, of which Rev. J. L. Black is pastor, the large congregation following the suggestion of the pastor, offered a standing vote of thanks to The East Tennessee News, Judge T. A. R. Nelson and the colored lawyers, Esq. W. F. Yardley, John A. Huff, Esq., and H. B. Brown, Esq., for the part they played in behalf of humanity.

NEGROES PAY DEARLY FOR STOLEN BROOMS

Five negroes arrested by the police several days ago in connection with the theft of a number of brooms from the United Grocery Store were arraigned in the recorder's court Monday afternoon before acting Recorder T. J. Stough. Four of the negroes were given 30 days, and one of the negroes asked for a continuance until Tuesday afternoon.

John Merriweather and William Dannelly, charged with the larceny of the brooms were fined $100 and costs. Moody Cottrell and A. B. Moore, charged with buying and receiving the stolen brooms, were fined $100 and costs. William Carter, negro, charged with receiving the stolen brooms, will be arraigned in the court Tuesday. The brooms were recovered by Williamson and Curtis, Motorcycle officers.

Crime —1919

Clipping
Daily Record
2-19-19

WILL PROVE SALU...

In Catawba county Superior court the other day two homicide cases were disposed of which have more than passing interest for the people and which augur well for law and order and for greater security of life. In both cases convictions were obtained on the facts and the evidence as presented to the court and the jury and both defendants were given terms in the state prison. One of the defendants, Pink Cline, killed a man, who, according to the victim's dying statement, had been invited into Cline's home. The old plea of self-defense was worked overtime by the defense but in the end it didn't work at all and the jury returned a verdict of guilty. In the second case a white man named Warren killed a negro in Hickory. Warren too, was convicted by a jury of white men and given a prison sentence. Commenting on the Warren case the Hickory Record commends the jury for its righteous verdict where "prejudice was opposed to justice," and says:

"The Record has no feeling in either the Cline or Warren cases and it said nothing to prejudice the defendants before they had come to trial before a jury of Catawba county men. It wants to commend the jury in the Warren case, however, because this was a matter where prejudice was opposed to justice and justice triumphed. A Catawba county jury said by its verdict that a white man cannot go around shooting people, even though they be negroes, without suffering for it. The case involves more than a mere killing of a harmless negro. It is a lesson that will prove salutary in this county. The Record commends the Catawba county jury and Judge Webb for delving into this case, obtaining the facts, and doing the right thing."

It used to be said in North Carolina that a man could get off much lighter for killing a human being than for selling a pint of liquor, particular if a good lawyer was retained and if it was a white man who killed a negro or if the unwritten law or self-defense were involved. Of course as a general rule that was not true. In the great majority of homicide cases tried we believe justice obtained. But there have been a few glaring cases of the miscarriage of justice and many people, no doubt, felt after reading the damaging evidence and then the verdict of "not guilty," that life was held all too cheap and that we were fast coming to mock at our courts and hold in contempt our laws.

In recent years, however, there has been a healthy trend toward facts and the evidence. Public opinion for strict enforcement of the law has had a salutary effect and juries have not been so free to give ear to the eloquence of the lawyer pleading for the life or the freedom of the killer. The words of the presiding judge in his charge to the jury and the evidence of witnesses are apparently having greater weight with juries than the theatricals of counsel and gentlemen are beginning to learn that it is not now such an easy thing to obtain an acquittal regardless of the facts. We agree with the Record that the two verdicts in Catawba "is a lesson that will prove salutary" not only to Catawba county but to the state. The knowledge that the mills of justice grind exceeding fine; that punishment is sure to those who break the law, will have a restraining influence on would-be killers or other evil-doers and crime in North Carolina and particularly murder will steadily decrease.

N Y C POST
FEBRUARY 19, 1919

ALABAMA'S OPPORTUNITY.

Alphabetically, Alabama leads all the rest. Whether it is the list of States in a schoolboy's geography or the deciding rollcall for the nomination of a candidate for President, the first name is hers. But it is not easy to find Alabama leading anywhere else. Yet she rose to the emergency of the war as if world conflicts were matters of every day. She furnished men, white and black, to her full quota. She subscribed $30,000,000 to the Fourth Liberty Loan—her State debt three times over. And she claims the credit of being the first State to coördinate all war work in the Council of Defence. The plan that she adopted, in order that every agency should know what every other agency was doing and that as a result there should be no duplication of effort, impressed the Council of National Defence so favorably that it was sent to all State Councils as a model.

This mixed record is not unknown to her. But with a candor that not every State might show, she has been led by it, not to use one part of it to cancel the other, but to take stock of her social condition. Following the example of West Virginia, Florida, and South Carolina, she invited Mr. Hastings H. Hart, of the Russell Sage Foundation, to come down and look her over, and then tell her what he found and what he would advise. With the rare combination of tact and frankness, backed up by expert knowledge and judgment, that he has revealed in his "social studies" of these other States, he has drawn a picture of Alabama that must be extremely useful to everybody in the State, whether in private life or in office, who takes an intelligent interest in its progress. One of his "discoveries" is that Alabama, although she rejected a bond issue and by so doing forced Gov. Henderson to curtail expenditures wherever possible, "is abundantly able to pay her way." All she has to do is to observe her own law, that property shall be assessed at "60 per cent. of its fair and reasonable cash value." It is assessed at from a half to a third of his percentage.

The most arresting item in Alabama's budget is that of $775,000 contributed towards the expenses of the State during the year by her 3,000 convicts. Alabama is one of a very few States that still have a convict lease system. Her convicts are leased in three coal mining camps, a turpentine and a lumber camp, and a State-owned cotton mill. At the camps the men may work on their own account after finishing their task for the State. Two-thirds of them take advantage of the opportunity, and earn from $3 to $20 and even $40 a month. There was no similar chance at the cotton mill until last summer, when the State received a contract to supply the Government with cotton cloth. In order to increase the output, the convicts voluntarily agreed to have the hours of labor increased from 11½ to 13½ a day, and they were paid extra at the rate of $1 a week. Small as this "bonus" was, the convicts earned by means of it $847 during the month of June. More important, the allowance was found to have such good effect upon the industry, interest, and conduct of the prisoners that when the extra time was dropped, it was decided to continue it at the same rate. The profit of the mill for the State was $227,000 in the fiscal year 1918. The superintendent believes that the labor of the prisoners is worth fully 80 per cent. of the labor of free operatives.

But this financial showing is the brightest part of the picture. Physically and morally, the leasing system is highly objectionable, and even at the cotton mill conditions of living are poor. White men and negro men and women are associated at work, contrary to law and to prison regulations. Even the financial arrangement is unfortunate. The prisoners may spend their earnings in any way that they choose. To some extent, they buy food and clothes, the latter including eight-dollar hats and twelve-dollar shoes for wearing after discharge. But they may gamble at will. Alabama thus furnishes the piquant spectacle of men sent to prison for gambling, gambling with their prison earnings. Both they and their families would be helped by a regulation forcing the division of this money with those supposedly dependent upon them and ending the paradoxical situation by which only convicts may gamble with impunity. The prison problem is not Alabama's only concern. Educationally, she is one of the backward States. Her chief industrial plant, that of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company, is setting the State an excellent example in its Social Science Department in this and other respects. One detail will serve as well as a thousand:

> Regular tooth-brush drills have been established. The children march to the victrola, form in order, and execute the tooth-brush drill according to a prescribed and systematic method with much enthusiasm.

Other bright spots are a hospital for negroes which "stands side by side with the Virginia State Hospital for negroes as one of the two best hospitals of their class" and an industrial school for white boys, probably the only one in the country with a board of trustees composed entirely of women. Alabama's success in places like these is promising for the future of all her social institutions.

WAR ON VAGRANTS RESULT OF BATTLE WITH TWO GUNMEN

Police Not Sure Negro Killed by Deputy Was In Fatal Shooting.

Latest developments in fatal gun battle:

Developments Monday in the gun battle Saturday night at North Thirty-third Street and the L. & N. crossing, in which Police Scout W. D. Evans and a negro said to have been Albert Brown, were killed, were:

Sam Moore, alias "Black Jack," Negro, who was killed Sunday afternoon by Deputy Sheriff Lee White, was the man with Brown when the battle occurred, city detectives declare.

The police department has not accepted the theory that Moore was Brown's partner and has ordered the arrest of another Negro, whom they believe was the one with Brown.

Brown, who was believed to have been a soldier, was not in army service, having donned khaki to cover his steps, police assert.

Police Scout A. W. Phillips, who was wounded when Evans was killed, will recover unless complications set in, physicians believe.

Police and deputies Monday took the field under orders to wage war on vagrants and suspected gunmen as a result of the pistol battle Saturday night at North Thirty-third Street and the L. & N. crossing, which resulted in the death of one policeman and a Negro and the serious wounding of another policeman, when the officers halted the Negroes along the railroad tracks and began to search them.

With Police Scout W. D. Evans and Albert Brown, Negro, dead, and Police Scout A. W. Phillips wounded, police and sheriff's deputies Saturday night and Sunday engaged in an unrelenting search for the Negro with Brown at the time of the shooting, who escaped, and when a squad of deputies searched a Negro house in Alley C, between Twentieth and Twenty-first Streets, Southside, Sunday afternoon, it is believed they were in the fugitive's lair.

Sam Moore, alias "Black Jack," one of eight Negroes in the house, who was killed by Deputy Sheriff Lee White, refused to submit to search and walked out of the house, only to be followed by Deputy White. Moore is said to have cursed the deputy upon being caught outside.

With hands in his pocket, gripping a double-barreled derringer pistol, Moore defied the deputy, but White, whipping out his revolver, ordered the Negro to take his hand out of his pocket.

"I'll kill you if you don't take your hand out of your pocket," Deputy White is said to have told the Negro.

"You're not game enough to kill me," the Negro hissed, it is said.

"One, two," the deputy counted, and

a report rang out. Moore was fatally wounded with a bullet in his neck.

When Moore's hand was pulled from his pocket the derringer came out with it.

Sheriff Chris Hartsfield and Deputy Sheriffs White, Pope, Harris and Hillard were searching through Negro quarters on Southside when they saw about eight Negroes enter the house in Alley C. The officers went to the house and put the Negroes under arrest. All the Negroes submitted except Moore.

Moore was taken to the Hillman hospital, where he died about 6 o'clock.

Shortly after the officers were shot Saturday night Chief Deputy Fred McDuff, together with eight other deputies, including Deputy Sheriff White and County Detective M. S. Smith began a hunt for the Negro with Brown. They reported early Sunday morning that information had been obtained as to the place where the Negro ...ed and that he would be in jail in ...hours. 2-22-19.

According to police officials, the two Negroes are believed to be well known car robbers. The Negro supposed to have been a discharged soldier was only wearing the uniform and looked to be about 40 years old, officers say. Residents in the neighborhood of the shooting told officers Saturday night that the supposed soldier's name was Albert Brown, but, according to police Monday, this was an assumed name. It is believed the two Negroes had just got back from a car robbing job, and believed the two officers were on their trail.

Upon investigation of the house said to have been occupied by the two Negroes, Sunday, officers say they found about 300 pounds of lard, in large unopened cans, said to have been stolen from a freight car.—News.

Tuscaloosa Ala News

MARCH 4, 1919

Much Less Crime Among Colored Folk

The sheriff's office reports a great improvement in the morals of the colored population of this section, there being very much less crime of a small nature than formerly, while capital cases among them has been reduced very greatly.

Speaking of the matter this morning, one of the deputy sheriff's remarked:

"It is the rarest thing in the world that you see colored men shooting craps these days. Formerly that was favorite way they had of getting rid of their cash, but the game seems to have fallen completely into disuse. When have you heard of the sheriff's office running in any considerable number of colored people for crap shooting? I think that the race has improved very much along this line and in other respects, that I could mention."

Negress Fights With White Woman On Street Car

DAL... TIMES

The prompt arrival of Officers Preston and Plant put an end to what might have developed into serious trouble Saturday afternoon when a negro woman struck a white woman on a street car at Main and St. Paul streets. Several blows were exchanged and feeling ran high for several moments. The car was stopped and the officers arrested the negress on a charge of assault and battery. She was released on bond. Witnesses say that as the negress entered the car she jostled the white woman and that when the woman remonstrated the trouble started.

NEGRESSES BAND TOGETHER FOR THEFT PURPOSES

PITTSBURG PA PRESS

MARCH 4, 1919

By Gertrude Gordon.

Because the police have interfered drastically with their alleged former immoral practices, many Negresses of the Hill district, according to Commissioner Kane, are using strong-arm methods of getting "easy money." A great number of the hold-ups lately have been committed by Negresses, the commissioner says. In some cases the victims have been beaten up badly.

Gertrude Gordon

"These women," said Commissioner Kane yesterday, "have been arrested so often and fined so heavily, as well as imprisoned for living immoral lives, that they decided to branch out in new directions. Sometimes they work two or three together. They will watch for men who seem unfamiliar with the locality, and entice him into a dark alley or a doorway. If they can get his roll by simply 'frisking' him they will do that and let him get away. But if they cannot, they beat him up. We have arrested some Negresses who have been carrying knives—regular Apache weapons. To check this trouble, we have brought police in from other districts so they would not be known and let them go out as plain clothesmen. In this way we have rounded up a lot of the female highwaymen. Our new men will be put to this work. During February, about 25 per cent of the highway robberies committed in the downtown and Hill district was the work of Negresses."

IN HILL DISTRICT.

"The 'hold-ups' so far have been confined to the downtown and Hill districts and the police are watching carefully that they do not spread, also using every means to curb the lawlessness where now is raging.

Commissioner Kane says many of the women are experts in "frisking" a man of his money without his knowing he has been robbed. Two or three of the women will jostle him, and, when he has regained his balance, his money is gone.

Much of the trouble suffered by victims, of course, is brought on by the victims themselves. If a stranger wanders aimlessly through dark streets or alleys, or follows the invitation of practically any person who offers enticements, he will suffer for it. "Most of the people who are meeting this trouble, are those who are looking for trouble of some kind," Commissioner Kane said today, "but that does not lessen our responsibility."

The situation is a novel one in the criminal history of Pittsburg, for never before have women banded together in such work, or worked as individuals, so much along the same lines. One great trouble the police are facing is the reluctance of victims to make charges, or testify against their assailants. A man does not like it known that, in his cups, he has wandered across the color line. Many of them sooner would suffer their losses. Some of them only are found out because the victims have been so battered up that they are forced to seek medical aid.

Every effort is being made to stop the wave of street robberies, and success is looked for with the augmented police force to work with.

SCORE OF HOLD-UPS CHARGED 4 NEGROES

WASHINGTON D C TIMES

MARCH 12, 1919

Four colored men are under arrest today charged with holding up and robbing a score of persons during the last two months.

The men are: Joseph J. Carter, twenty years old, of First and G streets southwest; William H. Minor, twenty-two years old, of 5216 D street northeast; Ewald Harris, nineteen years old, of 134 N street northwest, and Harvey Robinson, twenty-five years old, of 1220 R street northwest. According to the police the men have admitted a score of robberies.

The police of the Third precinct arrested Harvey Robinson about ten days ago on suspicion. He admitted being one of a gang of bandits, the police say.

The men are said to have admitted they held up and robbed Lawrence Simi, of 1289 New Jersey avenue southeast, of $16, and R. E. Lee, of 910 South Carolina avenue southeast, of a gold watch on February 3; Henry B. Hansborough, of 527 C street southeast, of a watch on February 19; John Watson, of 1201 S street northwest, of $23, and W. H. Duncan, of 1429 First street northwest, of $6 on February 23.

It is charged that the four men stole the automobile of Madison Mays, of 1211 South Capitol street, and wrecked it against a tree at Eighteenth and U streets northwest on February 17. Policeman Brown, of the Eighth precinct, in attempting to apprehend the fleeing colored men, narrowly escaped serious injury when one of the fugitives fired several shots at him.

NEGRO SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON FOR $21 THEFT

Convicted of Being Habitual Criminal; 2 to 15 Year Terms Imposed Upon Seven.

ST LOUIS MO REPUBLIC

MARCH 26, 1919

One man was sentenced to life imprisonment and seven others were given sentences ranging from two to 15 years in the Penitentiary when they pleaded guilty to various offenses in the Circuit Court for Criminal Causes yesterday.

James Mayberry, a negro, 4226 West Belle place, was convicted of robbery and of being a habitual criminal by a jury in Judge Garesche's division of the Circuit Court, and was sentenced to life imprisonment. He was charged with having robbed the store of Julius Gesselschap, 3011 Lawton avenue, of $21 January 4.

F. Harry Quick of Indianapolis, Ind. was sentenced to five years in the Penitentiary when he pleaded guilty in Judge Taylor's division of the Circuit Court to a charge of robbery. He was jointly charged with John Klein of having held up Joseph H. Royce, 1210 Linden street, on February 13, and robbed him of $43. Klein pleaded not guilty.

Mexican Pleads Guilty.

A. E. Decamacona, a Mexican, who says his home is in Chicago, pleaded guilty to a charge of embezzling $500 from the Boatmen's Bank January 15, and was sentenced to two years in the Penitentiary by Judge Calhoun. He represented himself to bank officials as A. Martinez, to whom a draft for the amount had been drawn. The money was paid to Decamacona upon identification by an attache of the Mexican consulate.

Frank Borowski, 6622 Crest avenue, pleaded guilty to a charge of embezzlement and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment by Judge Calhoun. On January 29 he is said to have delivered a barrel of whisky to the Charles Rebstock Liquor Company, 200 South Main street, collecting $248 for the St. Louis Express Company, by whom he was employed. He was charged with appropriating the money.

Gets 15 Years for Murder.

Marion Adams, 6780 Glade avenue, was sentenced to two years in the Penitentiary by Judge Calhoun when he pleaded guilty to having robbed the saloon of Anson N. Seabury, 1430 Market street, the night of February 5. Adams and another man, identified as Joseph Brown, held up the saloon while it was crowded with customers. They obtained $100.

Oscar Parrish, 1225 North Fifteenth street, pleaded guilty to a charge of robbing the furniture store of Hoffman and Kornblum, 1413 Franklin avenue, March 4, and was sentenced to two years in the Penitentiary.

Steve Dzeniski, a laborer of 925 Harlan avenue, was sentenced to seven years in the Penitentiary by Judge Garesche when he pleaded guilty to a statutory charge preferred by Anna Sztorc, 14 years old, 530 Baden avenue.

Henry Hamilton, a negro, was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment in Judge Taylor's court for the murder of Rebecca Madison, a negress, January 27. He pleaded guilty to second-degree murder.

GREAT INCREASE IN CRIME SHOWN BY THE SOLICITOR

The tremendous increase in crime in Fulton county is producing a serious condition in the courts, according to Solicitor John A. Boykin who presented the matter to the county commissioners at their monthly meeting this week. The increase in the number of robbery, burglary and murder cases has been going on since the first of the year, the solicitor says, resulting now in a terrible congestion in the criminal court.

The weekly indictments of the Fulton grand jury run from 25 or 30 persons to about twice that many when there are two sessions in a week, it was pointed out, and there is now on the criminal court docket 50 per cent more cases than were down a year ago.

The present session of the court presided over by Judge Humphries opened Monday, but there is an indication that it will have to keep going into the summer months if the Tower is to be kept clear for the reception of new guests.

The commissioners have voted an allowance for increased assistance in both the solicitor's office and that of the court stenographer, Harvey L. Parry, to help take care of the overwhelming business of courts.

YOUTH ADMITS FRAMING STORY OF NEGRO HOLDUP

INDIANAPOLIS STAR TIMES

APRIL 8, 1919

It required only a few minutes for Detectives Haley and Stewart and Sergt. Huston to solve a reported holdup case when Elsworth Dunbar, 16, of 1655 Spann avenue, called the police to Spann avenue and Spruce street, and informed them he had been robbed by a negro who relieved him of his week's wages, amounting to $6. He said he was hit with something like a black jack.

There was no mark on his head and the police took him to headquarters, where he confessed that he had spent his money bowling and betting on the games and did not want to tell his parents the truth.

Crime – 1919

THE CRIME MENACE.

Solicitor Boykin declared publicly a few days ago that the criminal division of the Fulton county superior court is fairly swamped with "business," indications being that it will be physically impossible in the next term of court to dispose of the criminal cases now awaiting trial—and the list is increasing every day!

There is a reason for this, and one that is not to Atlanta's credit!

W. D. Hoffman, councilman from the eighth ward, charges it to unwarranted laxity on the part of juries in dealing with criminals.

"It appears," he says, in a communication appearing elsewhere upon this page, "that if a man has a grudge against another, all he has to do is to shoot him and then plead self-defense before a jury and he is promptly acquitted."

In too many instances that statement holds true.

We say this with reference to no specific instance, nor by way of discussion of any case that is now pending before the courts; but as an abstract proposition, applying generally, Councilman Hoffman's point is well taken.

An occasional case of crime is to be expected so long as men are amenable to passions and prejudices; but when crime becomes so revalent as to clog the machinery of justice—as seems to be the case in Atlanta just now—it is high time that the people, through the courts and by orderly process, were taking a hand, not only in fixing the cause, but also in applying the remedy.

Undoubtedly, maximum punishment would prove a great deterrent to the would-be criminal; but back of that, a co-preventive of crime, and one that would prove even more effective, would be the elimination of incentive—which, in almost nine cases out of ten, as the records will show, is whisky or pistol-carrying, often both!

So long as our laws and our law-enforcement authorities permit men, women and children, white and black, to buy pistols and carry them with almost as much freedom as they might buy and carry lead pencils, as is the case in Atlanta; and, on top of that, so long as it is possible for people, white and black, to fill their stomachs and fire their brains with blind tiger whisky, we might as well, reasoning from **cause to effect,** prepare ourselves to view crime in the light of common, matter-of-fact **consequence.**

This applies not only to homicidal crime, because those two companion evils are the potential parents of almost every type of crime known to criminology!

Killing an annoying tree by lopping off its limbs is a slow process. The quickest and most positively effective means is to grub out its roots.

Eliminate the blind tiger and the hip-pocket pistol, and crime would cause the good people of this normally peace-loving community little concern!

DECATUR OFFICERS AND BLACKS WAGE BATTLE ON SUNDAY

The Constitution

Trouble Starts on Decatur Street Car Sunday Afternoon When Negroes Draw Revolvers and Threaten Men, Women and Children.

FUGITIVES CAPTURED AFTER RUNNING FIGHT

Negro Arrests One of of the Desperadoes by a Ruse, Shooting Him Through Leg — Second Is Taken After Waging Fight in House With Sheriff.

Decatur, Ga., April 13.—(Special.) Two negroes, armed with revolvers, terrorized men, women and children on a North Decatur car this afternoon and afterwards ran through the city shooting at will before they were captured by a posse, in which several hundred local citizens took part. The negroes boarded the car in Atlanta shortly after 1 o'clock, but did not make trouble until after the car had reached the city limits.

Without warning, the police say that Marshall Bennett, a powerfully built negro, pulled from his hip pocket a large caliber gun and told the other passengers that he was the man that "would clean up" if anyone cared to start trouble. Women fainted and children screamed. The men in the car tried to quiet the frenzied negro, but as an answer several shots were sent through the street car window.

When the men began to gather threateningly around Bennett his pal, Jesse Wilson, came to his rescue and flourished a fully loaded revolver. Conductor Milton did his best to make the negroes put their guns away, but he cold not persuade them.

This excitement continued throughout the trip. As the car swung in front of the Decatur courthouse Bennett left by the front route and Wilson jumped from the rear platform.

As they left the car the cries of the frightened passengers calling for help attracted Sheriff J. A. McCurdy, Policeman W. H. Broswell and several others who saw the negroes running down the street.

Barricade Selves in House.

The two fugitives were told to halt by the sheriff and they turned and leveled their revolvers at their followers and opened fire. The negroes continued their mad dash until they reached a house on Cooper street.

They barricaded the door and pushed the furniture from the center of the room to use as a blockade in case the door should be battered down. Sheriff McCurdy went to the front door and after repeated efforts to open the door, broke in ot it with the help of several others who had joined in the chase.

As the sheriff started to enter an inner room, Bennett opened fire and one bullet just grazed him. This did not stop the officer who returned the fire and then dashed into the darkened room after the desperado. McCurdy succeeded in knocking the revolver from the hands of the negro but in the scuffle lost his own weapon.

For several minutes the desperate fight continued. The sheriff then regained his weapon and hit his assailant over the head with the butt. He dropped unconscious and McCurdy went to the assistance of Policeman Broswell who had gained entrance from the back part of the house.

Negro Opens Fire.

As Broswell entered the back door, Wilson fired several shots at him. Wilson then jumped from a window and ran down the street.

Broswell and a crowd chased Wilson, who answered their cries of "halt" by firing into the crowd. The policeman answered his shots, but had to be careful with the gun playing, owing to the Sunday afternoon crowds on the streets.

Wilson continued his flight through the central part of the city and knocked women and children to the pavement in his mad chase. He scaled the high fence about the jail and came in contact with Turnkey Bill Osborn. The negro shoved his smoking gun under his face and told him to throw up his hands.

Mrs. McCurdy, the wife of the sheriff, saw the negro and called to him not to shoot. At the sound of the woman's voice, Wilson ran back, scaled the fence and rushed around the back lots.

Negro Captures Fugitive.

By this time Sheriff McCurdy and several police officers resumed the chase. Wilson reloaded his pistol and kept shooting at the approaching crowd. Policeman Broswell fell in, chasing the man, and gave his pistol to William Stall, a negro.

Stall led the chase and came upon Wilson. "They are after me, too," said Stall.

"All right, we will fight them together," yelled Wilson.

Stall, when at a short distance from Wilson, commanded him to throw up his hands. Several shots barked from the gun in the hands of Wilson. Stall returned the fire and wounded the negro in the right leg. Even the shot did not take all the life out of him, and before police officers had a chance to separate the two negroes they were having a free-for-all on the ground.

Wilson was finally landed in the police station. By this time a crowd of almost five hundred had assembled about the jail. For some time cries of "lynch him" could be heard, but Sheriff McCurdy finally succeeded in dispersing the mob.

COMMITTEE THINKS STATE MIGHT OPEN ITS OWN COAL MINES

The Montgomery Advertiser

Alabama Owns Rich Coal Lands, Where Convicts Could Be Used Profitably

CONDEMNS LEASE SYSTEM

State Institution at Wetumpka Inspected and Praised For Good Conditions

Alabama is richer in coal than any ctate in the South. The State of Alabama, as an institution, owns rich coal lands in Tuscaloosa county. And the State of Alabama has the services of some 2,000 convicts. Why not link up the last two propositions?

That is the thought that is being dwelled on by members of the joint recess committee of the house and senate which has to deal with making a report to the Legislature, when it next assembles, on the future utilization of the labor of convicts who are wards of the commonwealth.

W. J. Dansby, representative from Choctaw county, a member of the committee, says that as far as he knows none of the members of the committee are as yet committed to this idea, but they are all everlastingly looking it over from every angle

Mr. Dansby says he has seen enough of the turpentine camps and other places where convicts are employed to make the hiring out of the unfortunates in such work abhorrent to him. Like others of the committee, who have expressed themselves, Mr. Dannby does not believe in pampering, petting and making life "one long sweet song," for felons whom the courts of the Commonwealth have deemed fit subjects for punishment, but, he said, Saturday, in commenting on the topic with some friends, "These poor creatures are humans, most of them hav erred through ignorance and lack of opportunity to learn better. They do not deserve the treatment that some of them have at times received.

"Good, hard work," he continued, "never has hurt anybody who was physically able to do good hard work, but to my way of thinking there is no necessity for the hardships some of the prisoners are made to suffer.'

Lease System Condemned.

"I cannot say as yet, that I am convinced that it would be practicable and the best thing to do, this having the State operate a coal mine and using its convict labor, or some of it, for the purpose, but there is one thing certain, this 'third man proposition,' this hiring out of the convicts to anybody, should be stopped.

"One way the thing could be managed would be to use the strongest and most able bodied convicts in the State's coal mines, and the lighter weights and those of poor physique or health in less arduous tasks.

Speigner and Wetumpka Praised

"The cotton mill at Speigners is certainly being conducted in a most satisfactory manner. It is profitable to the State, and the people there are well cared for. The prison at Wetumpka also deserving of much praise. We must do something to bring convict life to a more humanitarian basis and have more of an equalization, and it is obvious that when they are sentenced to labor that they cannot be allowed to loaf."

Mr. Dansby is not alone in this praise the prison at Wetumpka; other members of the committee have also visit-

ed it and they too are very much pleased with what they saw.

During the past week most of the members of the committee went to Wetumpka and made a thorough inspection. In speaking of it Saturday, George Ross of Jefferson county, said:

"The officials seem to be all that could be desired, the place is wholesome and very sanitary. The prisoners are clean; well cared for and well fed. Their sleeping quarters are very good. The prisoners seem as well content as their circumstance allows:

Opposed To Lease System.

"Having these unfortunates under direct supervision of State officials I believe to be the best method of handing them. I am unalterably opposed to the lease system. To me the best solution of our convict situation is the elimination of the third factor the lessee. For the sake of law and order, just punishment, and upbuilding of these unfortunates the third party should be eliminated. Except in the most rare instances ,the convict to those who hire them, are merely so much working material from which all the work available is to be secured, at the expense of every other consideration. Such handling of humans does not tend to build character to re-create men and women.

"As the wards of the State much can be done for them; as animated hireable machinery their lot is impossible."

The committee re-convened in Montgomery Saturday. A resume of the work of the week was compiled, and plans for next week were made.

Thomas E. Orr, of Marshall county, did not return with the other members. He has gone to Atlanta and is making a study of the penitentiary system there. He will return Sunday.

At the conclusion of the Saturday session of the committee the members called on Governor Thomas E. Kilby and held a lengthy discussion with him going over most of the situation.

Monday the committee members will assemble in Birmingham and will spend some days in study and inspection there.

Some More Camouflage Negroes

CHICAGO ROBBERS ARE NOT COLORED—WHITE MEN BLACK FACES.

(By A. N. P. Association).

Chicago, April 22.—Chicago has been visited this spring by an unusual wave of crime. In several instances where robberies have been committed it has been reported through the daily press that the victims declared that the "robbers were Negroes."

Three "colored" men stepped into Adam Streit's grocery, when he was alone at noon. One of them put a revolver in front of Streit's face. Streit came across the revolver and seized the revilver by the muzzle. There was a scuffle and the "colored" men took out, running at high speed speed through the street, with the grocer after them. Two of them were finally caught and taken to the police station where it was immediately discovered that the "colored" men were in reality white men covered with lamp black. The men were much chagrined over the discovery of their "color."

Captain Thomas Coughlin, of the Stock Yards station, said that he believes they are the "colored" robbers who have been carrying on much of the robbery on the South Side, and which has been laid at the door of the other residents of that section.

REACTION AFTER THE WAR.

Readers of The Advertiser's editorial page will recall several brief discussions about the time of the signing of the armistice of the inevitability of a moral reaction after the war. No second sight was needed to make the prophesy—moral reaction, human history has proved, are inevitable aftermaths of great wars.

No prediction could have been made with any accuracy as to the form which this moral reaction would take, but it was only certain that the weaker and more criminal classes of the population, when freed from the restraints of war, and when society itself was being relieved after its mighty effort, would violate the laws of God and men.

New York, every newspaper reader knows, has suffered from and is keenly concerned over the prevalence of crimes of violence, daringly carried out. Chicago is no more fortunate—that city has been engulfed by what the newspapers call "a crime wave." We hear of the same thing on a smaller scale in Birmingham and in Atlanta. The police departments of these two cities have been alarmed by the spread of thieving, burglary and assaults.

Paris, as was to have been expected, had to more than double its police force to make property and human life safe in a city, which had to contend, not only with its own criminal class, but with the dregs of the various armies which fought in France. Now a dispatch from London says: "Spectacular holdups, mysterious murders and thrilling jewelry robberies are holding the best attention of the London public and claiming the best skill of Scotland Yard. Not for many years, if indeed ever, have the authorities been called upon to cope with such a wave of crime as that which has engulfed the metropolis since the beginning of the year."

There is nothing new in this development—every war has been followed by "a crime wave" which in time passes to let order and security again reign.

TWO CASES

Two criminal cases, now occupying the attention of the courts in jurisdictions immediately adjoining us, well illustrate the dual standard of justice meted out to offenders of the two races in the Southland.

In the one case, a respectable Negro man killed a white man whom he found in his home in a compromising attitude with his wife. He had been suspecting and observing their relations for a long time, and was certain of his conclusion when he acted. He secured a mistrial in his case, when he should have been acquitted.

In the other case, a young Negro man had killed a young white farmer for whom he worked, under the following circumstances: The Negro was severely rebuked and beatened for being found attending a Liberty Bond rally when, as the white man thought, he should have been at work on the farm. The Negro was taken forcibly by the white man and his brother in a wagon away from the meeting, and on the way home was beaten almost into insensibility, and would have been killed with a pistol which was used on him, but for the interference of the brother of the white man. The next day the white man and Negro met at a neighbor's and renewed the trouble. The white man cursed: the Negro said "you're another," whereupon the white man advanced upon the Negro, threatening to kill him; the Negro ran toward the neighbor's house and into it, the white man pursuing; as the white man entered the door, he was shot. Upon the trial, the Negro made a good witness in his own behalf, whereas the state failed to bring forward certain material witnesses who could easily have refuted certain startling charges made by the Negro. The trial was under military guard, the atmosphere being so charged with lynch law that the counsel for the Negro feared to move for a new trial, lest this very act provoke a lynching. The Negro now faces the gallows, with little hope.

Harsh and unrighteous as appears the consideration of the rights of the Negro men in these two cases, they are typical of thousands of other cases where the issue is between whites and blacks, in the south.

And yet we are said to be living in a democracy, where all "men are free and equal," and where all men are dealt with alike before the law, and where Justic is blind, not seeing the color of men's skins.

Where the hand of hate will descend to the surpassing brutality and depravity, which burning churches of God represents, and degree or manifestation of sin and wrong and injustice may be expected.

THREE GENUINE COWARDS— TWO BLACK, ONE WHITE

The Observer has been reliably informed by an eye witness that on last Thursday, April 17th, at Richmond, Texas, there was enacted one of the most practical demonstration of German brutality that a civilized man's mind can imagine.

There were three colored men in a car going to town, there were also three white men in another car, they were all seemingly bound for the same destination but in turning the same corner the cars came near colliding with one another but did not touch.

The car with its colored passengers arriving in the town first, the occupants proceeded to a cold drink stand, and were quietly drinking therein, when three white men came in and proceeded to curse and abuse the three colored men for not giving them the three white men, the road and at the same time commenced to raise a rough house by striking the Negroes.

At this point two of the Negroes ran as all cowards do but the third was a man and he remained even after having been struck and tried to reason with them to the extent of reminding them what the traffic laws permit as to the right-of-way and his general reputation for law and order as a law abiding citizen and etc.

The very fact that the Negro didn't run and had the manhood to prove a more lawful citizen then they with hundreds of years of civilization was more than they could stand and they proceeded to hem him up and to throw glasses and bottles at him, and still no officer interfered, but they were near.

In self-defense the Negro pulled his barlow and in the old fashioned breakdown dance way made business pick up by carving to the bone all within his reach. One white man was cut, the other two ran.

Here the officer did his duty and placed only the colored man under arrest and turned him over into the hands of the jailer and in making the charge informed him that this nigger cut a white man.

The jailer asked the officer for his pistol and in true German style proceeded to show the Negroes who own farms and have given their sons for the country's cause how a German taught jail keeper can help to stop Negroes from being good citizens and remaining in small towns. With the ugly looking pistol he battered the Negroe's head into a jelly and for helping Uncle Sam shoot Germans he kicked his teeth down his throat.

The colored man's father came up and in his humble way begged him to not murder his son and for this the father received a blow over the head and dragged the helpless man into the jail cell and refused to let him have any medical assistance throughout the night, while passers by heard his groans.

Several white business men tried to get the Germanized jailer to not strike the man any more but not until a real man came and in real American language demanded that not another lick be struck and here the cowardly brute skulked away and he is now trying to beg his bondsmen to not get off of his bond, and desert him as he thought he was doing what the best white citizens wanted done.

Negroes have been told that if any of them tell it that they will be run out of town. Not one of the white men have been placed under arrest."

The Observer is of the opinion that some running will be done for it has been told over and over again to the proper people and from what we hear there will be moving day in Richmond, Texas, if this Germanized jailer is not removed and properly prosecuted.

If the Observer man was the jailer he wouldn't take no such chances with those crack shot winchester Negroes of Richmond.

And again the Negroes made Richmond planters rich and are today buying supplies, automobiles, implements and have much cash in the banks that they can come to Houston and live and simply write a check here and the money will be forthwith coming to the contrary notwithstanding. In Houston we are greatly in need of laborers of all kinds, and this is also true of many other places.

Is it any wonder that our people are silently leaving this section and won't this occurrence accelerate the action of the hundreds that are planning to leave in a short time?

Stockade Sentences Imposed by Recorder On Negro Chauffeurs

Inaugurating a policy that will tend to discourage ambitious automobilists who use the city thoroughfares for motor speedways, Recorder George E. Johnson on Monday morning imposed heavy penalties on two negro chauffeurs found guilty of speeding. George Grant, who was charged with speeding on Edgewood avenue, was given the limit of the law—$100 fine and 30 days in the city stockade. His license was also revoked for a period of 30 days after his stockade sentence. Officers McKinney and Kirk took Grant into custody after he had whizzed by at several notches above the speed limit.

Andrew Dixon, another negro chauffeur, was fined $26 and had his license revoked for 30 days. He was arrested by Officer Melton on Baker street Sunday afternoon on a charge of speeding and the officer declared that while on the way to police headquarters Dixon attempted to escape, putting on speed and reaching West End before being overtaken.

Crime.—1919.

IMPRISONED GIRL BEGS JAILED EDITOR FOR AID TO RETURN TO HER BABY

N Y C CALL
AUGUST 14, 1919

Never Felt So Helpless and Hopeless in His Life, Says Memphis Journalist After Completing Ten-Day Term in Free Speech Fight.

(The writer, Edward T. Leech, editor of the Memphis Press, has completed his jail term of 10 days' punishment for editorial criticism of corruption in politics and dishonesty in courts.—EDITOR'S NOTE.)

By EDWARD T. LEECH.
Editor of The Memphis Press.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Aug. 13.—A newspaper editor in jail—gets no rest.

I never worked so hard in my life as during the 10 days of my imprisonment.

When I entered the jail, I started to keep a record of my visitors. But I gave up in despair and lost count.

I came with a suitcase, but I left with a phonograph, electric fan, water cooler, boxes of cigars and candy, baskets of fruit, cakes, pies, a bottle of disinfectant, cans of insect powder, thermos bottles filled with hot coffee, cans of preserved fruit, jars of jam, books and a great stack of newspaper clippings, editorials and letters from every part of the United States.

Every day the patrol wagon pulls up to the jail to get prisoners who have been sentenced to the workhouse or the penitentiary. A Negro prisoner, to whom has been delegated the honor of calling the prisoners, sings out their names with a wail like Caruso singing the "Sob Song": "Will-i-u-m-m-m Br-o-w-n-n-n, get all you got and come on!" he cries in a voice that runs the whole gamut from basso to tenor.

Not All Pleasure.

And yet it hasn't been all pleasure. I had sadder moments in jail than I ever knew before. I never felt so helpless and hopeless in my life.

For on all sides of me were men and women, boys and girls, to whom the visit of an editor in jail, with friends calling constantly, seemed so strange that they had come to believe I could get them out of the plight they were in.

Last night in jail I was climbing the long iron stairs to my room, after exercising by a nightly walk in the lobby, when a girl slipped me a note through the bars. She and another girl were sentenced to one year each for shoplifting and with four other charges yet to be tried.

Girl Begs Help.

The jailer—and he's a thoroughly good man, beloved and respected by the prisoners—had told me of her. He believes she is the innocent and ignorant victim of bad company. And so do I.

When I got to my room I read the note. Misspelled and ungrammatical, it was a plea for assistance from a girl who has no friends, who says her baby is sick and her old mother in poverty—alone in jail without help or support of any kind.

And a Negro back in the tiers of cells, where scores and scores of Negro prisoners are confined, sent me a petition by the guard, a petition 10 pages long, and every letter of it carefully printed, instead of written.

May Aid Girl.

A railroad man on a charge of robbery, and others, appealed to me for help—yet I couldn't honorably keep even myself out of jail. Whatever I can do for them I shall, but I am afraid it will be little. Perhaps it will be possible to induce the court and the prosecuting witnesses to drop the cases against the girl and let her go home to her mother and baby. I HOPE SO.

Living in jail and visiting in jail, I have discovered, are two very different things. As a newspaper reporter I used to go around many jails. But I never stopped to think what a jail was before.

I never had seen so many men and women lolling around, day after day, in absolute idleness, nothing to occupy their hands or their minds, wasted and sidetracked.

Prisoners Sidetracked.

It seems to me that a jail can best be compared to the railroad sidings travelers pass so often, where strings of rotting, rusting and dilapidated box cars stand, seemingly forgotten and abandoned. It's the same way with these people. Because of some deficiency they, too, have been sidetracked and deserted, left to rot and rust in idleness—and yet the world wonders why they're not as good as new cars when the time finally comes to put them back into service again.

The day I came in—almost at the same hour—Manus Jones, 17, Negro, awkward and ignorant and black as a coal pile at midnight, registered at our common lodging.

Stole 85 Cents.

Manus stole 85 cents from a little boy. So the law arrested him and the law put him back in the same corridor with at least five Negro murderers, numbers of robbers and burglars, petty thieves, bootleggers and what not.

Three days later Manus was tried and sentenced to one year in the reformatory. And at 4 o'clock next morning, I saw Manus taken away to start his sentence.

There was such a clang and clamor and shouting down in the corridor below me that I got out of bed to ascertain the trouble. I looked down and saw a long chain lying across the floor, with pairs of handcuffs fastened to it at intervals of every three or four feet.

Boy Is Manacled.

Two by two, negro prisoners were coming out of the barred door leading back to the tiers of cells and were being fastened by their wrists to this chain. There were 13 of them, and the 13th to be manacled was Manus, 17-year-old boy. Four of his companions were starting to the penitentiary at Nashville to begin serving murder sentences. The others were going for various major crimes. Manus was going with them to Nashville, where he will be put in the reformatory.

He didn't look as awkward and scared as when he entered. He swaggered and laughed like the other Negroes. A week in jail had taught him many things.

Law Has Determined.

Only a few days ago he was a growing Negro boy, capable of becoming a hard-working, honest darky, or a shiftless, no-account, criminal Negro—just as the future developed for him.

He made his first slip—stole 85 cents—**and I believe the law has definitely determined which kind of a man he shall be.**

I almost forgot my own case in the interest I took in those around me, in the hopelessness of my fellow prisoners, in the certainty that this idleness and confinement and constant association with criminals of all degrees is simply breeding new crimes.

Judicial Censorship.

But I can't quite get away from the big point, the fight for free speech, for every day I was there at least four or five of my letters have been from fellow editors who have also suffered imprisonment. Many of the cases are quite similar to my own.

I never before realized how many newspapermen have gone to jail for writing their convictions. **I never knew how widespread was the practice of using judicial power to silence criticism.**

If my own case will go just a little ways to arouse public sentiment until it makes such judicial tyranny impossible I will be amply rewarded for 10 days which—even without any such result—will always be to me the most interesting and probably the most worth-while I have ever put in.

FIVE-YEAR SENTENCE FOR SHOULDER THEFTS

Will Johnson, a negro, was found guilty of burglary in Judge Humphries' court Wednesday and was sentenced to serve five years. The charge was of robbing the store of J. D. Rendens of two shoulders of ham and a side of bacon, worth $30.

Solicitor John A. Boykin has returned from his vacation in North Carolina and will take charge of the trial of R. W. Glass for defacing automobile marks of indentification which comes up today. Glass is also charged with automobile thefts.

JENKINS HELD; WATSON WILL BE CAPTURED SOON

One of Negroes Who Shot Convict Guard Arrested In New Orleans—Other One There, To[illegible]

SEPTEMBER 14, 1919

Jessie Jenkins, negro convict, who with three others, Willie Watson and two women, overpowered and fatally wounded Convict Guard John Lynch at the Hinds County Prison Farm the night of September 1, is in the hands of officers in New Orlaens, according to a telegram received here Saturday by Sheriff Will Wells.

Jenkins, according to the message, admitted to officers that Watson was also in New Orlaens, and Sheriff Wells believes his capture is certain. Watson was painfully wounded in a fight with a constable at Terry shortly after his escape.

A report prevalent here Saturday afternoon that Jenkins and Watson had killed a negro at Shivers in Simpson county, proved incorrect, according to Sheriff Wells. A negro was killed there by other escaped convicts, who got away from the Yazoo farm recently.

Watson and Jenkins, however, did kill a negro at Midnight shortly after their escape. They quarreled with him when he refused to feed them, and shot him to death.

Two Women Held

The two women involved in the shooting of Lynch are in the Hinds county jail here, and Sheriff Wells thinks the two men will soon join them. While he did not have definite information on the subject, he thought Jenkins would be brought to Jackson sometime today and placed in the jail here.

The shooting of Lynch was unusually brutal. All four convicts involved were serving short terms for minor offenses. Late on the afternoon of September 1, they rushed Lynch knocking him down and taking his gun from him.

They carried him to a convict "cage," placed him in it, locked the door, and shot him in the hip at close range with a large calibre revolver. It has not been determined as yet which one of the negroes used the pistol.

Lynch Suffers Much

Lynch was brought to the Jackson Sanitarium immediately after the shooting, where he lingered until Wednesday of the past week, suffering terrible agony the entire time with his shattered hip. He was conscious at times and begged that the leg be left alone. The seriousness of his condition otherwise caused the doctor to grant his request.

His wife was with him constantly during the days of his suffering. In addition to the wife, three children survive. Lynch had a record as a faithful official, and general regret is expressed over his death. Feeling against the negroes has been running high especially in the neighborhood of Raymond, Lynch's home.

Hundreds of citizens took part in the search for the negroes. They were lost early in the present week somewhere in Simpson county, and it is supposed they took a train for New Orleans then.

Watson, who is only 19, formerly ran with Gant's bloodhounds at Crystal Springs, and his knowledge of the ways of the dogs is believed to have helped him baffle them during the early days of the pursuit.

Jenkins, who is about 30, is a giant black, and has served sentences before. He escaped once before, and was recaptured at Clarksdale.

GREENVILLE S C NEWS
JULY 19, 1919

THE DEADLY WATERMELON.

Crime wave has started over in Georgia which may go to extreme lengths and cover wide areas involving the whole South. A large proportion of the population is subject to this wave either as offenders or avengers. It seems to have the legal authorities puzzled. They don't know how to deal with it. Two negroes are dead and three white men wounded and the trouble started on account of a watermelon. A negro charged another negro and a white man with mutual stealing of a watermelon. The case was tried before a magistrate and he dismissed the accused either because he didn't consider a watermelon as property or because the evidence was insufficient, or that he thought the matter outside of his jurisdiction. The reason is not stated. When the prisoners were released, the plaintiff undertook to secure redress for his stolen melon by force of fire arms, but lost his life instead. Two dead men and three wounded were effects of that deadly watermelon. It was loaded. The event carries a warning: beware of innocent seeming watermelons, when they smile enticingly on the other fellow's vine.

This must have been a melon of the "rattlesnake" variety. The account of the occurrence concludes with the statement that no arrests were made. The inferences are that it is no crime to steal a watermelon, that white people as well as negroes are liable to do it, that negroes resent it as well as white people, that if the matter is settled outside of court somebody is liable to get hurt, and that killing caused by watermelons is not necessarily followed by arrest or punishment. It is a parlous situation.

Considering the insignificant cause and the tragic results we may draw the further conclusion that innocent pilfering of fruit and such small truck utterly without malice, although not a crime in itself according to popular notions may start a crime wave. Crime seems to be hanging around in masses like mountain avalanches requiring only a slight thing to set them into destructive motion. A few hard words and a man is shot down ad a whole community shocked. Chickens scratch up a few beans or peck a few tomatoes and neighbors fall out and harbor illwill which may result tragically. Small boys "hook" a few green apples and several families have distressing night sessions with stomach-ache; and lawful owners of the immature fruit and unlawful immature users thereof and their backers indulge in bitter persiflage. Little girls wandering idly by a flower yard slip in and pluck a few blossoms and angry excited words flow over the telephone wire to police headquarters or warm up the overheated breezes in secluded neighborhoods.

People just simply don't like to have their "things" stolen. It is the act and not the value which incenses them. Their owers, fruits, vegetables, should be as secure from theft as their money, their clothing, their goods. Violations of the moral code even in trifling matters arouse indignation in those who suffer even slightly by them. We are not Bolshevists yet even in the matter of watermelons and still believe in the sacredness of personal, private ownership. If a man's house is his castle, his garden, his orchard and his watermelon patch are parts of his castle grounds and should have a wall of legal protection around them. It would have been better if that magistrate had taken that case more seriously and required the charge either to be proved or disproved, and if proved he should have punished.

The plaintiff had a right to some sort of legal satisfaction since he had appealed to th legal authorities. Being still dissatisfied he foolishly tried to get illegal satisfaction and lost his life as well as his melon.

Beware of the melon on the other man's vine; the peaches and apples on another man's tree; the vegetables in another family's garden and the flowers in another woman's yard.

They may be loaded. The watermelon is a most delicious fruit, vegetable, or not, but under certain circumstances it is deadly.

THE DEADLY TWINS

Whisky and the hip-pocket pistol, deadly twin destroyers of life, character, hopes and human happiness, are, according to police records, responsible for another deplorable tragedy in Georgia.

Statesboro, Bulloch county, is the scene, where a hard-working farmer is in jail charged with the murder of a neighbor and friend, and where a mutual acquaintance of the two is held for complicity in the crime.

The press report of the situation, based upon alleged confessions of the two prisoners, says that—

"Davis (the man charged with murder) and McMillan (the alleged victim) were good friends and lived in the same community on farms. They came to Statesboro together Saturday morning and remained in company all day until late in the afternoon, when they met Simmons (the other man now in jail). It is said the three men were drinking."

And Davis himself is reported to have told the police that he and his neighbor-friend—

—"Came to Statesboro together, and that during the day one would carry **their pistol** awhile and one **their bottle of whisky.** Then they would change."

Subsequently, according to Simmons' story, Davis and McMillan "got in a tussle, McMillan throwing Davis, and when they got up Davis leveled the pistol at him (McMillan) and fired!"

And the thing was done!

Whisky and pistol had claimed another victim—one more life was blotted out, and another worse than wrecked!

Georgia has been striving for years to banish both of these evils, whisky-drinking and pistol-carrying.

Thus far it has failed.

True, we have stringent laws against the former; and if they were enforced and lived up to, such a tragedy as that in Statesboro would not have occurred.

Annually for almost a decade efforts have been made to have legislation enacted that, if enforced and lived up to, would put a stop to the latter.

But such efforts have thus far failed.

And, while our legislatures go on, year after year, meeting and adjourning without erecting the simple safeguard that society demands for its protection, men continue carrying pistols, getting drunk, and killing each other—even friends frenzied by booze, killing their friends!

POSSE SEEKING NEGRO ROBBER OF VIRGINIA BANK

Alberta Bank Tapped For $15,000; Man Is Surrounded

The Atlanta Constitution 10-12-19

(Associated Press)

LAWRENCEVILLE, VA., Oct 11—Surrounded by a posse of citizens of Alberta, near here, an unknown negro was being sought tonight following robbery of the Alberta Bank at noon today by an amount said to be $15,000. When the streets of the town were practically deserted, the negro entered the bank, placed a gun at the head of T. P. Winborne, Jr., marched him to the safe and compelled him to take all the bank's available cash, it in a package and turn it over to him. The negro then forced Winborne to escort him to the door where he ran down the street. Winborne immediately gave the alarm and joined in the chase.

The hold up was still in sight of the posse when they opened fire. The negro returned the shots and for several minutes a battle raged in the streets. During the running fight, the negro dropped about $1,500. He was driven into a swamp near the town, where all trace was lost. Appeals were sent to Norfolk and Petersburg for bloodhounds and an effort was made until a late hour today to land the robber, but last reports said the trail had been lost.

NEGRO ROBS BANK

The Atlanta Georgian 10-13-19

Lawrenceville, Va., Oct. 12.—Posses are searching for a Negro bandit who held up the Alberta Bank here yesterday and escaped with booty said to total $15,000.

The Negro entered the bank during the noon hour and forced the cashier to make a package of all available cash and escort him to the door. A running gun fight in the street followed before the robber escaped into a swamp.

BANK IN VIRGINIA LOOTED OF $15,000 BY NEGRO BANDIT

The Constitution 10-12-19

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ARREST MANY NEGROES

Montgomery Advertiser 10-19-19

Charges of Loitering Brought Against Twenty-one

Twenty-one negroes were arrested by police officers Saturday night after one o'clock, all charged with loitering. Six negro women were arrested on charges of vagrancy. Most of these negroes were collected on Hall street near the scene of the recent shooting of Police Officer Barbaree. They will tell their troubles to the recorder Monday afternoon.

The police force has been instructed to run in all loitering and idle negroes found about the city.

Crime—1919.

Negro Nurse Fined For Whipping Child

MACON GA NEWS
MAY 11, 1919

Claudia Johnson Is Also Lectured by Judge Guerry—Must Pay $125 or Serve Five Months.

In the city court Saturday Claudia Johnson, a negro woman, was found guilty of assault and battery, it being charged that she whipped the ltitle son of Mrs. J. H. Whitsett, of 873 Mulberry street.

Judge Dupont Guerry gave the negress a severe leecture and gave her the privilege of serving five months at the state farm at Milldgeville or paying a fine of $125.

Aaron Reese pleaded guilty to carrying a pistol and to violating the prohibition law, and was given six months or $152 in the first case and three months or $35 in the other.

Wiley Johnson, a negro, drew five months or $125 for pointing a pistol at another.

Joe Cochran got three months or $60 for drunkenness on the highway. He was arreseted by Deputy Sheriff E. J. Rainey in Crump's Park.

Johnnie Waters pleaded guilty to violating the prohibition law, and was given six months or $100. It is alleged that two pints of whisky were found in Water's house. He denied that he owned them, howevere, and said they were brought there by some one else.

A case against Will Gaston for assault and battery was nolle-prossed.

Will Miller, a negro, was fined $40 or three months for stealing six yards of cloth from Mrs. Lela Pearlman, of 56(Poplar street.

Fifteen Negroes Caught by Police

Crap Games Are Raided Late Saturday Night by the City Sleuths.

MACON GA NEWS
MAY 11, 1919

Fifteen negroes were arrested by the detectives within two hours late Saturday night, and locked up at the police headquarters. Thirteen are charged with gaming. They were caught in raids on crap games on Broadway and Ash streets. Laura Ragland is accused of being disorderly and Clance Williams of larceny. The police say the number of arrests is the lagest made by the dectectives in one night in years.

In the raid at the offices of the Union Taxicab Company on Broadway, when Robert Ward, George Turner, Jim Moore, Ike Dumas, and Robert Bigham were arrested, Detective W. O. Swift narrowly escaped being struck in the head with a brick. He was at the door in the rear of the building, and someone, evidently a watcher, threw a brick at him with great force. It "brushed" his hat and knocked a large hole in the door. The negroes stampeded and tried to escape, but were covered with revolvers.

Ike Abrams, Jim Parker, Ernest Rhodes, Duck Baldin, Bemon Little. Lizzie Banks, Mamie Howard and Annie Mae Haynes were arrested at a house on Ash street.

The arrests were made by Detectives Swift, Stevens, Evans and Strippling. The negroes will be arraigned before Recorder Maynard in the police court Monday.

The detectives also arrested late Saturday night a man forty-five years of age, who gave his name as R. L. Hawkins. He is accused of loitering and violating the state work or fight law. He was ragged and dirty and had no money. He said he had lived in Macon thirteen years, but the police believe he is a stranger here. He will be tried in the police court Monday.

KANSAS CITY MO STAR
MAY 12, 1919

NELLIE KEPT HER PHONOGRAPH

A Collector, 130 Pounds, Vanquished by Negro Woman Weighing 300.

Nellie Blue, who lives at 1121 East Seventeenth Street, is a negro woman and weighs 300 pounds. Several months ago she purchased a phonograph on the installment plan from the North-Mehornay Furniture Company. Later she became delinquent in her payments.

C. A. Poulter, who lives at 1421 East Twenty-ninth Street, is a collector for the furniture company and weighs 130 pounds. He went to Nellie's home Thursday and, when she filled the doorway, displayed a police star on his vest.

"I've come to take back the phonograph," Poulter said.

"Man, you ain't big enough to take back my phonograph," Nellie replied.

Poulter caused Nellie's arrest and both were in the South Side Court today, Poulter with a black eye and bruises received when Nellie knocked him off her front porch.

Justice Casimir J. Welch, sitting for Judge Edward J. Fleming, asked to see Poulter's star as a special police officer.

"You've been abusing your commission," he said to Poulter. "I'm going to recommend that the police board take it away from you."

Turning to Nellie, Justice Welch continued:

"You did perfectly right when you struck Poulter. If he seeks to recover the phonograph, let him go into the justice court. You're discharged."

CRAP SHOOTING.

Condemns Promiscuous Arrests of Boys for This Amusement.

Montgomery, Ala., May 10, 1919.

Editor The Advertiser:

We frequently see in the newspapers accounts of the arrest of a lot of negro boys for shooting "craps" in some secluded place. The description of the arrests indicate a subdued pride, a chuckling glee in the officers over their "old sleuth" methods of stalking their quarry, pouncing on them in their happy laughter, and then placing them in prison cells. The stakes are usually insignificant, pennies or nickels. "Craps," perhaps, is not a very elevated form of amusement, but those who play it are usually very simple folks. Pray, where is the harm to the community compared to the harm of depriving of their liberty a lot of happy, care-free boys? In theory, at least, the law is no respecter of persons, yet what a howl of indignation would be raised if officers arrested, at the Country Club, all the members who made trivial wagers on their game, or arrested a party of ladies at a game of "bridge". The undoubted evil of open gambling houses should, of course, be suppressed, but neither golf wagers, "bridge" or "craps" tend to cause embezzlement, or defalcation. It would seem that the old legal maxim has peculiar application. "De minimis non curat lex," which may be interpreted, "About very trivial matters the law does not concern itself." The "holier than thou" people, the Pharisees, the moral uplifters who seek to make all men conform to their own peculiar views are becoming a nuisance. If not a danger. Torquemada, head of the Spanish Inquisition, was of such gentle nature that he would not willingly kill even a fly, yet in his zeal for his religious views he would have the limbs of men torn asunder, and their bodies cast into burning oil. He would save their souls from damnation, though he destroyed their bodies. It is not particularly im moral to play golf, or "bridge" or "craps;" it certainly does not injure those who do not play. The days of the Spanish Inquisition should be over.

Negress Seeks $10,000 Damages from Ty Cobb

N Y C TELEGRAM
MAY 29, 1919

DETROIT, Mich., Thursday—Ty Co is the defendant in a $10,000 damage s filed April 26 by Ada Morris, a negre Judge Clyde J. Webster signed an or of default, attorneys for the plain claiming they served notice of the suit during the baseball game here on that date and that Cobb ignored it. The plaintiff alleges that Cobb kicked her following an altercation in a Detroit hotel on April 25.

THE TRUTH ABOUT PAUL BATES

Paul Bates, hanged in Screven County last week for killing one Grady Oliver, was the hapless victim of fate and circumstances. His case is typical of all those cases where the white landlord and his Negro tenant in the rural communities of Georgia and the South, in the trial, of which, the law even, is helpless before race hate and the community opinion and organization to see justice done in matters which affect Negroes.

Paul Bates was tried for murder in an atmosphere of mob violence and lynching. He came near to being lynched while incarcerated in the Sylvania jail, the military being called out to prevent this. It was necessary to take him to Savannah both before and after the trial for safe keeping. He was tried under heavy military guard, the Augusta and Newington troops being in attendance.

Bates had no witnesses in his behalf, because persons possessed of testimony favorable to a Negro in an issue of this sort would run the risk of being lynched to testify. But Bates made an excellent witness for himself; he told a straightforward and logical story of the incidents leading up to the homicide, and we are frank to state that, although a great many of his charges are such as to show that he acted in self defense when he took a man's life, practically every material and germane charge was side stepped and allowed to go unchallenged. For instance, Bates told a tale or horrible treatment and abuse and threat of his life which he had received, at the hands of the dead man, and his brother, while the three rode together in a wagon on the day before the homicide. The state, as represented by the court, conscious of the disadvantage of Negroes in such issues, and anxious to clear its skirts of any charge of suppressing testimony, yet failed to repute a serious attack upon its case as such a charge represents, when it was so well prepared to do so if it could, with the brother of the dead man present.

Court, which had been called in extra session, adjourned sine die, after Bates had been found guilty and sentenced to death. The counsel, appointed to represent Bates, did not file a notion for a new trial before adjournment (as the law requires) and gave as a reason therefore that Bates would have been lynched that day on the spot if such motion had been made or if the verdict had been other than death.

Bates would have been hanged before the next term of the Screven Court, had not the Governor on three occasions, granted respites at the instance of his lawyers, called into the case after Bates had been sentenced to the gallows. These respites carried the execution date over from February to May 23, and the new term of the Screven Court convened May 19, thus allowing opportunity for counsel for Bates to file an extraordinary motion, (the only remedy after failure to get a motion at the trial term) for a new trial. Such a motion carries the disadvantage of not contemplating or considering the merits of the cause on which it is issued, in a hearing upon a motion itself. It is only granted upon a showing of sufficient new subject matter irregularities, in the legal process es already had, warranting a rehearing of the case.

Bater' counsel had the motion before the Screven court when it convened Monday, May 19. But, alas, the judge became so suddenly ill that court had to be adjourned until the second Monday in June. Bates was to hang May 23rd. The motion was not considered.

Bates' attorneys made a last stand before the Governor of the state, and they were armed with statements from prominent business and professional men living in Screven county, and affidavits of various incidents and irregularities and inconsistencies of the trial to show it had not been fair and impartial. The Governor refused to commute the sentence to life imprisonment, and refused to grant a stay of execution to allow a motion to be presented before the Screven Court which had adjourned so suddenly.

Here follow in short statements, the reason why Bates should have had another chance, a new trial and a change of venue:

Man cannot possibly have a "fair and impartial trial," if the trial is conducted under guard of the military, called out to prevent mob violence. The atmosphere which had almost produced a lynching of Bates and made the military necessary was such as to preclude even the suggestion of fair play and the very presence of the military, the threatening mob which it is brought out to restrain, the public sentiment which makes it possible, and allows and suffers it, all influence the trial. Courts are only human, after all.

The incidents leading up to the homicide, which supplied the motive for the killing, testified to by Bates, were never disputed or challenged although it was extremely easy to do so. Bates alleged he had been assaulted, and named the brother of the slain man as a witness to the assault,, but he was not put up to controvert the charge. There is a theory of the law thatthe failure of either party to refute what is alleged against him by another shall be construed strongly in favor of the truth of the allegation.

Another lawyer, not connected with the case, stated that the dead man had been a brow beating, bull dozing character, that he consorted with Negroes socially, disregarding the racial and social distinctions, was a heavy drinker, and controlled his workers by force.

Another lawyer, approached to defend Bates by court appointment, was not appointed after he had indicated that his first move would be to move for a change of venue, which if denied, he would appeal to the Supreme Court by bill of exceptions.

No eye saw Bates kill Oliver. Bates admitted it, but claimed self-defense. Repeated efforts failed to get the charge of the court to the jury to find whether the charge had included "circumstantial evidence" or the "law as to admissions" and "voluntary man slaughter." Both the clerk of the court and the judge failed to furnish these after repeated entreaties to do so.

The trial term adjourned on Bates without a motion having been made for a new trial for him. The court-appointed lawyer had feared a lynching had he done so.

The new term (May), to meet which the three respites had been granted adjourned unexpectedly upon opening because of the extreme illness of the judge, preventing a hearing of a motion.

A writ of "habeas corpus" was sought to be filed in the Unites States District Court, and failed, being refused, as was said, because the court

had no jurisdiction.

The Governor, altho he did not look with favor upon trials held in the presence of the military and would not have found the same verdict, if he had been the jury, yet was bound by the fact that, "a jury has found him guilty," the "trial judge has affirmed the finding," the prosecutors and lawyers for the defense have said the trial was a fair and impartial one," and "the verdict correct," and refused to interfere to change the penalty from death to life imprisonment.

All the above facts were before the Governor, and more.

Paul Bates died, protesting, that he acted in self-defense and there are many who will always share that view There are many, including many prominent white, men, from the section, where the trouble occurred, who feel that Bates did not, and could not have had a fair trial in the atmosphere in which his trial was held, and that the discretion of the Governor should have intervened to give him another chance when the mere technicalities of the law and the courts had prevented it.

And yet, it is said, that "justice is blind."

Whipping Post Used In Maryland Town

N Y C CALL

JUNE 12, 1919

ROCKVILLE, Md., June 11.—The old whipping post was legally used here today to punish George Williams, a Negro found guilty of beating his wife.

With the Negro's back bared and his hands and feet fastened, Sheriff W. L. Aud gave him 20 lashes with a buggy whip—the maximum penalty for wife beating under the Maryland laws. Williams, who weighs more than 200 pounds with big broad shoulders, stood up well under the punishment.

"Thank you, sheriff, for being as light on me as you could," he said after the beating.

THE CRIME WAVE

THE VALUE OF HUMAN LIFE is cheaply held in these turbulent times. Although the gunfire on the battlefield has ceased and the enemy put to rout, lives of human beings in all parts of the world are being taken on the slightest provocation, and the authorities constituted to preserve law and order seem helpless to cope with the situation. Chicago, like other large cities, is having a reign of this terror, augmented by hold-ups, robberies on a large scale and bomb-throwing. This is a legacy of the late war, a legacy that borders on anarchism.

THE RECORDS of the courts show, in the comparatively few cases that have been brought to justice, that boys who wore Uncle Sam's uniform were never mixed up in these crimes; the foreign element and the riff-raff beyond draft age alone are responsible. There is a grain of satisfaction in the thought that Americans have an ocular demonstration that all bad citizens are not black, that the most dangerous characters they have to contend with are clothed with a white skin, even if their heart is black.

IT IS A SAD COMMENTARY on the police force of any city to assert that crime is far from being on the wane; that it is dangerous not only for women but for men to be on the streets unprotected after sundown. Chicago covers a large area, and owing to a lack of funds the city cannot afford as many police patrolmen as are absolutely necessary, at least after the politicians get their mits on the taxpayers' money there is not enough left to hire extra policemen. In striking at an evil it is necessary to get right at the root of it. The taxpayer must take an inventory of himself and see if he is not directly or indirectly responsible. It is within our province to send men to the council who are above petty grafting, men who can and will put self aside and work for the interest of those they represent. The city could in an emregency call upon our soldier boys to help put a stop to this wave of crime. The longer we wait in quell the harder it will be to check.

BRUTALITY IS DENIED TO ALABAMA CONVICTS

Montgomery, Ala., June 14.—Answering allegations made by a civic organization investigating committee at Birmingham yesterday, C. B. Rogers, president of the state convict department, today denied knowledge of the whipping of convicts leased to corporations. He also said that statements purporting to describe such treatment are hardly credible. Charges were made that their bodies were lacerated by lashes from whips.

"The diet of the prisoners is considered well balanced and sufficient for their needs," Mr. Rogers said today. "In some camps whippings have been lowered from a total of 76 to 13 per month. Sanitary conditions are greatly improved. If a state convict has been lacerated by whipping I would like to know his name. I will be glad to consider any suggestions of improvement in the convict system of the state, and will do everything in my power to change any bad condition proven to exist.

"Too much sentiment and too little action has been detrimental rather than helpful to the man who is suffering. The application of remedial methods, not the discusion of the measures, is needed."

Mr. Rogers said that he is doing his utmost to apply improved methods and that he would continue to do so, so far as possible under conditions now existing.

MERIDIAN MISS STAR

JUNE 20, 1919

Reward Is Offered For Negro Who Shot Chicora Constable Last Week

A reward of $350 is said to have been offered for the capture of the negro Guy, alias Hamilton, who shot and dangerously wounded Constable J. Malley Causey near Chicora, Miss., Wednesday night of last week, when the constable attempted to arrest the negro on a charge of shooting with intent to kill and murder. Reports reaching this city say that a large posse of citizens near Purvis chased a negro all day Tuesday, thought to be Hamilton but that the negro escaped and is believed now to be in hiding in Pearl River swamp.

Constable Causey was brought to this city for treatment of the pistol shot wound in his abdomen, the bullet having penetrated the intestines seven times. Last reports from the hospital were that he would recover following the operation that had been successfully performed.

MERIDIAN MISS STAR

JUNE 20, 1919

Negro Arrested Here Had Bad Finger

Bill Eutsey, a negro, was picked up in the railroad yards by officers Wednesday night and on investigation it was found that the finger of his right hand was stiff and mutilated. For a time it was thought he was the negro being sought at Laurel. However, it was learned that he was not the man, being rather small in statue and does not fill any of the descriptions of the man wanted in Laurel except the finger. Eutey was fined $10 by Justice Price on a charge of trespassing in the yards.

TRAVESTY ON JUSTICE.

The Lancaster News 6-21-19

Justice in Courts of Kentucky.

Georgetown, Ky., June 17.—"The evidence submitted in the case is not sufficient to bind Policeman W. O. Barkley over to the grand jury" was the statement of Judge Lancaster at the close of the examining trial of Policeman Barkley who was charged with the murder of Jesse Graves and James Mason.

The above statement made at the close of a poorly contested fight by Prosecuting Attorney H. Church Ford served only to bear out the fact that "the Negro has no rights that the white man must respect."

Evidence submitted by the witnesses of the prosecution showed conclusively that the killing was unjustifiable and that no provocation existed that would warrant such an assault.

Mrs. Millie Graves, the wife of Jesse Graves, told the followingstory:

"Saturday night, June 7, my husband and I were returning from our market shopping. Jesse had hold of my arm and was carrying the basket with his free hand. As we started out of the meat shop Police Officer Barkley walked up to Graves and said,'come with me.' Graves not knowing why he was wanted immediately consented. I, not knowing what was the trouble, was pulling at the arm of my husband and asking Mr. Barkly to let Jesse aloose as I was taking him home. With that Barkley said: '——, you, get away from here; I am going to take him with me.' I still pleaded with the policeman until he called a Mr. Petty to come and hold me. Petty, who was white, began tussling with me. The basket had been left on the other side of the street when Jesse was taken into customy. Turning around to Petty Graves shouted, 'Don't you hurt my wife.' About this time Jesse said, 'Mr. Barkley, let me go and get my basket.' 'Na,' snapped Barkley, let it stay there.' Jesse then replied, 'I am going to get my basket.' Ripping out an ocular adentis or scrofula, which is not Jesse answered that he was and snatched loose from Barkley. With that Barklay stepped back and said, 'I'll fix you,' and immediately he pulled his pistol, shooting and fatally wounding Jesse who sank to the ground.

Another witness in his evidence stated that at that time James Moson, holding his hands over his head, said to Barkley, "you have shot him." With that Barkley is reported to have then shot Mason, who died shortly from the effects of his wounds.

Policeman Barkley told the following story on the witness stand:

"Jesse and I had been passing the time of day. After leaving him I went into a house where a friend of mine appraised me that Jesse had made the remark that Jesse had made the remark that these ..... police wouldn't bother him. I immediately went out, looking for Jesse and found him and his wife on the street. I walked up to Jesse and placed him under arrest. We started across the street and his wife Millie kept pulling and begging at Jesse to free him. It was then that I called Mr. Petty to come and get the woman. After we had crossed to the other side of the street Jesse, in struggling freed himself and hit me over the head with a quart bottle of whiskey. After falling to the ground I drew my pistol and shot four times. I do not know anything about the killing of Mason.

Miss White, the sister of Graves, stated on the stand, that when she went to her brother, Barkley said, "Stand back there or there will be some more —— dead niggers around here."

On cross examination Lawyer S Anderson of Louisville, easily convinced the court that the story of Barkley had no back ground and that it was purely framed up evidence. All evidence produced showed that Graves was neither drunk nor disorderly and that he was going home with his wife. All the eye witnesses testified that they never sa wGraves hit Barkley.

And so justice in this democratic country of ours has once more been perverted and a man who should have been convicted of murder in the first degree, was permitted by the court at [illegible] to go scott free.

KANSAS CITY, MO JOURNAL

JUNE 28, 1919

Negro Arrested While Selling Stolen Clothes

Fred Haley, a negro, 31 years old, who gave his address as 1212 Woodland avenue, was arrested on Thursday night at Fifteenth street and Grand avenue by F. F. Tierney, J. F. Shepard and Vincent Crowley, patrolmen from the Nineteenth street station, on a charge of breaking into the home of D. E. Reifsnyder, 1302 Monroe street, on June 21, and stealing jewelry and clothing to the value of $200. Haley was in a pawnshop attempting to dispose of some of the clothing which was identified last night by Reifsnyder as that which was stolen from him. Part of the jewelry has also been recovered and identified by Reifsnyder.

When arrested, Haley had in his possession a large bunch of keys, many of which were skeleton keys, which he attempted to dispose of by throwing from the police patrol after his arrest. A revolver and flashlight were also in his possession.

Maliciously Shoots Colored Prisoner.

Murray, Ky., July 10.—When Jailer Albert Jones entered the jail on Thursday with dinner for prisoners, he demanded of Ed Gardner, a Negro prisoner, "Get up off that cot; get a move on and take this food in there for you 'niggers.' " Because Gardner did not move quickly enough to suit the jailer, he (the jailer) used more abusive language to the prisoner. An argument ensued during which the jailer drew his revolver and shot Gardner in the leg.

Gardner had been put in jail on a charge of whiskey selling. The additional charge of assault was preferred against him.

Crime – 1919

DECREASED HOMICIDE.

YONKERS N Y HERALD
JULY 14, 1919

It is gratifying to learn that there was considerably less homicide in the United States in 1917, our first year of war than in 1916, and there seems to be room for hope that the figures in 1918 will show still greater improvement. Whether the spectacle of the great war, with so many Americans committing "legitimate homicide" in Europe and with the issue in doubt, tended to check private quarrels by satisfying the appetite for gory excitement as well as inducing mental soberness can not of course, be certainly determined. But it is not unlikely that the tragic world-struggle did exert somewhat of a restraining influence even upon men of lawless instincts and untamed passions. If the great war could check selfishness and excite worthy endeavor in at least ninety per cent of our people, as it unquestionably did, there is no good reason why it should not also have tended to restrain even murderous passion.

The figures show that the record was still held by Memphis, Tennessee, and that most of the half dozen cities next in order in this unenviable distinction were Southern—Charleston, New Orleans, Atlanta, St. Louis, Savannah and Cincinnati—the negro problem, as heretofore, undoubtedly being concerned. All of these record cities, however, showed improvement over 1916, which permits of a hopeful view. A commenting editor suggests that prohibition will bring still greater improvement, forgetting that most of the Southern States have had prohibition for some years, not altogether successful prohibition in actual practice, it is true, but involving as large a degree of practical success as any further regulations are likely to achieve.

DISPOSING OF OUR CONVICTS.

7-10-19

The agitation against the so-called convict lease system of Alabama has reached its climax; a bill is before the Legislature to move the convicts out of the mines and the camps and to put them to work on the public roads of the State.

The Montgomery Advertiser 7/10/19

The advocates of the change have the votes; they can pass the bill if they want to pass it. Other Legislatures have had the same majority—it is no new question. This majority could have voted the so-called lease system out of existence at any time they saw fit. Many of the members had told their constituents that they were in favor of taking the convicts away from their present lease system and put them on the roads.

But when they got to the jump, they balked and refused to take it. Perhaps the present Legislature with a majority worked up to change the system, will decide not to take the jump after all.

For the abolition of the present system of working the convicts, and the substitution of the road working system will increase the State's deficit anywhere from a million and a quarter a year to two million dollars a year, unless something is done to replace the money. That is the bald and unpleasant fact standing on the other side of the jump, which halted the Legislatures of the past. Undoubtedly the Legislature should make a careful study of the operations of the Georgia system of supporting and working the convicts on the roads of that State. What effect has it had on the State Treasury? Are unbiased and unprejudiced people in Georgia, who know the real conditions advocating a continuance of the Georgia system?

Moreover, every Alabama County right now has, and has had for eight years, the right to take its convicts and put them on the road. Some counties in Alabama have availed themselves of that right. How did the plan work out? It was tried in Jefferson, in Morgan, in Pike, in Covington and in other counties? How did the experiment work out? All the other counties had the right to buy cages to keep their convicts at night and to work them in the day time. Why did they investigate the new plan and regretfully pass it up?

The Governor in his message to the Legislature does not specifically endorse any plan for handling the convicts. He no doubt recognizes the fact that a considerable sentiment has been worked up by interested parties in the Birmingham District and by well meaning idealists to have the convicts put on the roads, but the Governor has been a successful business man, and as the Chief Executive he is dealing with a condition, not a theory. He is of the opinion that perhaps the long term, able bodied convicts could be well employed in the mines owned by the State and he favors the extension of the State's farming operation. In speaking in general of the plans of the Highway Commission, he says, that the successful operation of such plans is conditioned upon the securing of more revenue. The experiment may be tried, he says in effect, but it cannot be tried unless the Legislature votes in the income tax.

The Governor hits the bull's eye of the present controversy and agitation when he says: "It is not true that the working of convicts in the mines is necessarily attended by cruelty and inhumanity, as is thought by many good people who have no knowledge upon the subject." Every man who has personally investigated the mines at which convicts are employed under State supervision know this to be true. The impression that working convicts in the mines is attended by cruelty has been created by people who do not know what they are talking about, or by people who for personal interest favor a change in the present system.

At the mines the convicts are under the direct charge of State officers, whose pay or position, in no wise depends upon the work or the output of the convicts. The officers as well as the convicts are under constant supervision by State officials. The agents of the State are in continuous charge of the convicts; only the labor is sold to the mine owners. It is a known fact that the convicts who have once worked in the mines are continually begging to be sent back there rather than to any other employment, if they have been transferred or have received another conviction. They are employed only eight hours a day; they are allowed to make money for themselves by overtime work, but are not compelled to do it. They have clean and comfortable barracks, good food and ample bathing facilities. For a business man or farmer to see them come out of the mines at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, with the sun high in the heavens and be able to seek such recreation as they may find in a large stockade, is to make him wish that he could keep those hours.

"But it is wrong—all wrong, for the State to receive any profit from the labor of the convicts," say our well intentioned idealists. Then why should the State receive any profit from the labor of its law-abiding and industrious citizens? The State and the Federal government very freely seizes the profits of the law-abiding citizen. The convict should not be preferred above him, as a citizen who must pay no profit to the State and who must contribute nothing to the state. Surely the business man should not be made to pay more of his profits, so that the convict should not have to contribute any profit.

NEGRO GIVEN LIMIT ON GAMING CHARGE

"Your record does not entitle you to mercy from the court," said Judge Henry J. Mehrtens Friday afternoon, in sentencing Sam Austin, negro, 1410 Second alley, to serve 180 days in jail on a charge of gaming. The recorder also tacked on a fine of $100.

Austin, in reply to questions, stated that he had lived in Birmingham for the past 33 years, and during length of time had been arrested 33 times on various offenses, but that he was about a month ahead of his regular arresting time. Austin pleaded guilty, and asked the mercy of the court.

"Your record does not entitle you to mercy from the court and, therefore, I am going to lose you in the high weeds," said the judge. "I am giving you the limit of this court. I only wish that I had power to send you to a place where the weeds grow higher."

Birmingham Ala. July 12 19

URGES NEGROES TO PUNISH MISCREANTS

SAN ANTONIO TEX EXPRESS
JULY 29, 1919

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL APPEALS TO RACE TO HUNT OUT VICIOUS ELEMENT.

An appeal to negroes generally to take the initiative in hunting out and turning over to the authorities vicious members of their own race and thereby eliminate many of the causes for mob violence is contained in an address to the Southern Baptist Convention by H. M. Tanner, principal of the San Antonio Negro School. The address follows:

"At this particular time when the peace of the world seems assured and the kingdom of heaven is at hand, the Southern negro Baptists have that opportunity now that comes but once in the life of an individual or a race to do the one big service for religion and humanity, to which all society is looking with confident hope. The world, and especially the men and women of this race have looked long and anxiously for an intelligent, consecrated ministry, such as you here give every proof of today and such as you are showing in your lives and in the application of the religion you preach to the every-day life of our people. In teaching the black men to die noble and good, I declare unto you it is necessary, an imperative necessity, that we should multiply our vigilance and efforts to teach them to live wisely and well.

"If ever a time was, more than another, when black men of intelligence should take up the burden of our less fortunate brother in black and help him to find the saner and better way, now is that time. Now when the public nerve is on edge and public opinion is attracted more than ever to the submerged and backward peoples of the world, our race in America must lift itself, as it were, by the boot-straps up out of the slough of despond and must do it now—and the way is the way you ministers so nobly advocate. But in addition, we who have seen the light, must advocate from pulpit and teacher's desk, a continuance of that strict obedience to the law of the land that has characterized our conduct as a race for the past fifty years, but with infinitely more zeal and courage are we commanded by every sign of the times to wage a systematic campaign against the imputed disposition among some classes of black men to fly in the face of the ancient customs of our surroundings and times.

"With the hush of cannon on Flanders' field, where the black boys wrought so nobly, comes the cry of violence in America—a cry of violence, whether true or false, that can and must be hushed forever, and the big job is up to you and me. We must go to and convince every member of our race, that it is not stupidity but wisdom, not cowardly, but brave, nowhere sinister but right that we put a stop this day to every act calculated to disturb the public mind and excite race animosity. Mob violence that blackens the fair name of our great country and is confounding the best thought of great and good men everywhere, can thus be stopped and must be stopped while it can be.

"A drastic remedy is necessary to kill a deep-seated disease or kill the patient. Lynching and mob violence have killed the patient and left the alleged disease untouched. And now black men, ministers who came to teach forgiveness, purity of heart and the perfect life, let us institute

a house to house campaign in every community of this State to the end that every black man, woman and child will see the wisdom of keeping the ce in a new and courageous spir[illegible] he will desist from a sense of cow[illegible] no more than of right, from all things of a violent or ill-advised nature.

"If we should show a determined disposition, not to become man-hunters, but to seek out and demand the right to bring to just punishment by means of the law, those of our race who give cause for the reign of terror that threatens our Southland today, lynching and burning would stop instanter—seek them out and punish them as enemies of society, adequately and not barbarously, would show infinitely more race patriotism, good sense and moral courage than all the sententious race heroics that came down from the North. Carry to them the lesson that the American puts the Ark of his social covenant upon the highest pinnacle of his enlightened life and he keeps it there with a million guns, support and defend it as you would defend your lives. Live by honest toil, pay them what you owe them, and tell them the truth, is the right remedy for the ills that sicken and sadden us today.

"Could one of our race be so shortsighted as not to be able to see, or one anywhere who could impute to us any other than the wisest and holiest of motives in advocacy of this course, upon him and his kind rest the nameless horrors of the past through which our race has come, and will rest the consequences of the oncoming tide of unrest in our State and section.

"The good people of both races are anxious to assist in composing the violent and restless elements in our population, and if black men, having more to gain and save from it than anybody else, are really anxious to stop lyn[illegible]g and burning, let us address ourselves [illegible]stly and fearlessly to the task of a[illegible]ding and punishing those so reckless [illegible] the lives and well-being of the gre[illegible] masses of defenseless and unoffending men, women and children around them. Would it not be vastly wiser and better for the victim of the mob and to society, to take him and visit the proper punishment upon him according to law, than to leave him to the violent excesses of the mob? We must this day begin the elimination of the idle and vicious elements or suffer the inevitable consequence of our shortsightedness and folly."

N Y C JOURNAL
AUGUST 12 1919

WHITES DISGUISED AS BLACKS ROB BANK CASHIER

SOUTH CARROLLTON, Ky., Aug. 12.—Three white men who disguised themselves as negroes by blacking their faces held up the cashier of the Citizens Bank here and escaped with $23,000 in Government bonds and $8,000 in currency.

City Marshal Mack Ashby was slightly wounded in an exchange of shots with the burglars.

DETROIT AGAIN FAILS TO GET WANTED NEGRO

(Special to The Advertiser)

ANNISTON, Ala., July 31.—Efforts made by Detroit authorities to take Wesley Forbes, an Oxford negro, back to Detroit, to answer to a charge of deserting his family, were again thwarted late Wednesday. Denial by Judge H. D. Merrill, in circuit court of a writ of habeas corpus asked by the negro, was followed by the negro's attorney, H. A. Emerson, taking an appeal to the Alabama Supreme court. This will serve to hold the negro in Alabama until the higher court acts. Detective George F. Wilson of Detroit, who has been here for ten days trying to get the negro, has returned to Detroit without him.

BILL TO TAKE CONVICTS OUT OF THE MINES IS REPORTED TO THE HOUSE

Bill Creating Highway Department For Federal Road Aid Is Given a Favorable Report

The Montgomery Advertiser 7-19-19

Wasting much valuable time in ranging over adjournment for the day and over a resolution fixing the time for reconvening next week the House of Representatives of the State Legislature transacted little business on its 27th legislative day, Friday. The law-making body has 23 working days left in which to complete the business of the State and at the rate at which bills are being introduced it is evident that the usual last minute jams will be in vogue.

Four incidents occurring on the floor of the House dignified it as a legislative session. The committee on Public Highways reported favorably H. B. 407 by Mr. Orr of Marshall, providing for the working of State convicts on the public roads under the joint supervision of the State Highway department and Convict board, and making it unlawful to lease convicts after January 1, 1923. The bill represents the majority opinion of the recess committee on highways and convict lease system.

As against this report, Mr. Green of Dallas gave notice that on the next legislative day he would seek to have H. B. 428, providing for using the State convicts in coal mines to be opened on University of Alabama lands after full investigation of its feasibility has been made by the Governor and Convict board, taken from the adverse calendar.

The public roads committee also reported the bill by Representative Arnold of Jefferson which creates the State highway department, defines its powers and duties, the manner in which members of the department shall be named to office, makes provision for accepting Federal aid in highway construction and gives powers to the State Department to designate trunk roads in the several counties.

Representative J. W. Green of Dallas, rising to a point of personal privilege, declared that he had been grossly misrepresented in a "sheet" at Mobile called the Mobile Times, in that ts account of the introduction, by him, of the bill which seeks to do away with discrimination between employer and employee, titled the said article in words to the effect that he was arrayed against "labor." He declared this was not the case by any means and cited reasons for introducing the bill.

Representative S. A. Lynne of Morgan county filed the report of the joint committee on the judiciary, copies of which were ordered printed. Later in the session he offered a number of bills to enforce the recommendations of the report in question.

Among the bills favorably reported to the House when the call of standing committees was made, in addition to those above set forth, the committee on game, fish and forestry reported favorably on H. H. 496, 527, 494 and 495, designed to protect stone and soft shell crabs, terrapin, sea turtle, salt water shrimp, black bass, green trout, rock bass, etc.

H. B. 497, the measure creating the Department of Conservation and fixing the salary of the Commissioner at $3,000 per annum, which is a substitute for the present laws governing the Game, Fish and Forestry commission and warden thereof, also was reported favorably.

7-19-19

A House bill introduced at the January session by Representative Whorton providing for a State inheritance or succession tax was reported favorably by the ways and means committee, while the judiciary committee reported favorably the Harrison bill establishing the Workmen's Compensation Act. The same committee reported favorably on the bill of Representative Walter B. Jones creating the model juvenile court for Montgomery county.

When the House was called to order at 10 o'clock by Speaker Merritt 94 members responded to roll call. C. E. Johnson of Montgomery offered the morning prayer. A message from the Senate reported action on several Senate bills, also on one House bill, which, later, was recalled.

Representative Baker of DeKalb moved to call his bill, providing for the election of county superintendents of education from the adverse calendar and the House sustained his motion. Mr. Mrphree then called up H. B. 493 relating to the issuance of warrants in school districts by amending section 6 of an act to provide for elections to authorize any county to levy and collect a 3 mill tax for school purposes, the bill being designed to correct faults in the existing measure. After it had been explained the House passed it by unanimous vote.

H. B. 275 by Mr. Lee of Perry, providing for the fencing or closing of unused wells or cisterns was called next and being amended to include "abandoned mine shafts" was passed.

S. B. 96 by Senator Riley Kelley was called up by Representative Dansby of Choctaw, being an act making provision for the construction, maintenance and establishment of roads in the counties of the State. The principal feature of the bill gives authority to county commissioners to increase the road tax from $5 to $10 per annum. An amendment by Mr. Benners of Jefferson to protect that county from the provisions of the act was adopted.

A break occurred here with the presentation of a joint resolution fixing Tuesday at 2 p. m. as the hour for the Legislature to convene after adjournment. The House rules committee reported it in amended form to make the hour 2 p. m. Monday. Mr. Vande-Graaff of Tuscaloosa offered a motion to substitute 10 a. m. Tuesday and a lengthy wrangle ensued, which was not settled until after further discussion of the Senate bill, a motion prevailing that when the House adjourn after roll call of counties for introduction of bills to 2 p. m. Tuesday.

Mr. Carnley sent up an amendment to the Kelley bill to provide that road tax collected under the act be spent in the precinct where the payer lived; another substitute provided that the money be spent on the road which the payer lived, this substitute being adopted. A motion to postpone further consideration was then passed and introduction of bills came next, a large number flowing to the clerk's desk, after which the House stood adjourned.

Washington Policemen Use Rough Methods

The Montgomery Advertiser 9-6-19

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 6.—What a prominent Colored lawyer of Washington described as the most brutal assault he has ever witnessed, was committed against Mrs. Mary Boston, Colored, by police privates of the eigth precinct.

9-6-19

Policemen made an attempt to arrest Mrs. Boston upon the charge of creating a disturbance, resulting in one policeman being beaten about the head by irate Colored people and being relieved of his revolver, and the second policeman having his uniform cut into shreds by a pair of scissors.

Responding to a riot call, additional officers arrived and placed the woman under arrest. Reports from eye-witnesses disclose that she was beaten almost continually from the place of arrest to the station. Men walking, riding in street cars, and standing in places of business, testified that they saw the pounding upon the woman by the officer. At the station, she was literally thrown out of the car and dragged inside, marks in the mud and upon the pavement indicating the rough treatment she underwent.

From across the street Mr. J. Finley Wilson, editor of the "Washington Eagle," witnessed the affair, and under enquiry as to its cause was administered a severe drubbing by several policemen and required to deposit $10 collateral and appear for trial at police court.

Later in the evening a committee of citizens called upon Captain Harrison of the eighth percinct and inquired as to whether or not he would countenance a continuation of such action by his officers. Little satisfaction was [illegible] it is said.

IN THE GRIP OF THE LAW

Women Found Not Guilty

Alma Holt, 1716 State street, and Julia Marshall, 2975 Wabash avenue, who were arrested at 1829 Federal street, May 24, last, by Officers Gavigan and Reilly (white), Second police precinct, on complaint of Peter Kotzion (white), 4424 North Ashland avenue, who claimed the women stole $65 from him, were discharged by Judge George Kersten of the criminal court for want of evidence. The women were represented by Attorney J. Gray Lucas.

9-8-19.

Dismissed from Custody

John Parrish, 224 North Kenilworth avenue, Oak Park, was discharged for want of prosecution by Judge George Kersten of the criminal court. Parrish was arrested June 24 last and charged with a serious offense by Ruth Steele, 16 years old, 2054 Kendall street. Parrish was represented by Attorney S. B. Turner.

o o o

Must Walk Different Paths

Judge Hugh Stewart of the Harrison street court discharged William Cobb, 33 years old, a butcher, and William Brown, 22 years old, a presser, with the understanding that they must not be seen together again. They were arrested by Sergeants Stark, Smith and Glenn of the detective bureau because they were acting in a suspicious manner.

TRAVIS GIVEN STIFF SENTENCE

WHEELING W VA NEWS
SEPTEMBER 13 1919

NEGRO HANDED SIX YEARS IN PEN FOR ROBBING MUSIC SHOP.

MUST ALSO SERVE ONE YEAR IN JAIL—BROUGHT BACK HERE LAST NIGHT.

When Ezekial Travis, colored, pleaded guilty this morning in [illegible] court to the indictments charging him with robbing the Music Shop on Twelfth street of $20 and breaking jail here on August 17, he was sentenced to serve 6 years in the state penitentiary at Moundsville on the first charge and one year in the county jail on the jail-breaking charge. The pen term is to be served first. The term in the jail will follow and during that Time Travis is to work on the Ohio county roads.

Travis was captured yesterday in Zanesville, O., by the authorities of that place. He answered the description sent out by Sheriff Hastings and he was detained until the sheriff and deputy sheriff, Alf Carter and City Detective William West went to that city. On his person was found a clipping from a local paper of the jail delivery in this city.

He was brought back here on the evening train and when brought into court this morning immediately pleaded guilty. Steve Carter is the only jail-breaker now at large. He was arrested here in connection with the robbing of the Manhattan rooming house.

Crime — 1919.

WHIPPING POST FATE OF NEGRO WHO STOLE WHISKEY FROM MAN

Twenty Lashes on March 22 and 3-Year Sentence for Robbery

Delaware's whipping post will have another victim on March 22, between the hours of ten and two, when a Negro will be delivered to the lash. Twenty lashes altogether are to be inflicted by order of Judge Boyce who pronounced the sentence Tuesday with all the solemnity of a commitment to the gallows adding to it a $500 fine, three years in prison and the costs of prosecution. The crime to which this penalty was fitted was the abstraction of a quart bottle of whiskey from a young man on Market street bridge. Technically the offense was highway robbery.

The victim of Delaware's law is Ezekiel George, a burly black with a police record for violence and sundry residences at the county workhouse in consequence of it. He took the ordeal of his approaching castigation stolidly.

After lifting this heavy burden from the criminal docket the court proceeded to untangle the strange case of Vincenzo Grangella. Grangella was discovered in New Castle county, with the unlawful amount of two and a half quarts of whiskey in his possession.

The difficulty in untangling the case was getting a lucid idea into Grangella's head that he had trespassed a law of the State and bringing him into a receptive attitude to the necessity of imposing a fine.

Grangella was unable to comprehend anything of the mysteries of the law and the cause of his offending in the absence of an interpreter, and by a desperate shift the court drafted a recruit from the attendance of spectators who could master the inflections of the Italian tongue. The interpreter made it known to Grangella that he had direfully infringed on the peace and dignity of the commonwealth by having more than a quart of whiskey that he could claim as his own at one time. It all seemed so strange to Grangella that he merely shrugged his shoulders by way of response to the indictment and made no attempt at evasion.

The court said it would be lenient to him and fined him $50, one half the amount of the normal penalty. When this fact was made known by the interpreter, Grangella's countenance fell and he began to dig into various recesses of his attire to appease the avidity of the law, the fact having been communicated to him that in default of the $50 he would be obliged to serve six months in the workhouse. Grangella paid.

Thomas Youngblood, a one-armed Negro, who in spite of this infirmity, informed the court that he had been making $50 a week at the Pusey and Jones ship plant and prior to that $105 a week at the Harlan works, was given a stiff sentence of two years for horse stealing under another of Delaware's statutes.

He was caught one night leading a horse by the bridle down Front street, exciting the curiosity of Policeman William K. Snyder, who detained him until he communicated with headquarters. There was no report of a stolen horse at that time, but Snyder obeyed his instructions to bring the man and the horse in anyhow, and early the next day an inqury reached the police for an equine that had disappeared the night before from the stable of James Tibbet, 102 South duPont street.

Bloodgood tried to make out a case to the jury that he had been paid by a man named Thompson, whom he could not identify, or trace, to take the animal to Second and Market streets. The jury was not seriously impressed with the statement and pronounced his guilt. He was recommended to the mercy of the court on account of his one arm, which saved him from becoming another whipping post victim.

Anthony Archer, a mulatto in the garb of a private soldier, who pawned a case of razors from a stolen handbag belonging to Percy Garret, connected with the duPont Company, was given a year in the workhouse after a vain attempt to put across an alibi. The grip was removed from an automobile standing at the curb on the Eleventh street side of the Hotel duPont on January 21, while Mr. Garret was absent in the hotel. The bag and its contents were valued at $125.

Detective Alonzo King traced the razors to a pawn shop and secured the positive identification of Archer as the person who pawned them under the name of Williams. Archer tried to make out a case that they had been given him by a man in a pool room in Norfolk, Va., but the jury couldn't connect it up with the thread of facts, and Archer was turned over to the mercy of the court. On account of wearing a soldier's uniform he was spared, likewise, from the whipping post.

Elizabeth W. Turner, charged with three violations of the cigarette law, was fined $10 and costs on the first charge. The other two were retired.

The case of Roy Williamson charged with violating the State Drug Act was next called. A jury was empaneled.

Elva Harris testified to being asked by Williamson if she wanted some "H" (in parlance of dope-users meaning heroin) and that Williamson then took a "deck" of the heroin from a matchbix, giving it to her.

Arthur Rodenheiser and Andrew Deviney, policemen, testified to Williamson's arrest after discovery of the heroin and hypodermic needles.

Dr. Watson, state bacteriologist, testified as to his analysis of the drug, stating it to be heroin hydrochloride. He then explained to the jury the uses and effects of the drug.

Williamson then took the stand in his own defense. He testified that he knew nothing whatever of the crime with which he was charged. In a dramatic manner he attempted to disapprove the statements of Elva Harris.

Jury found him guilty of first charge and sentenced him to serve one year and pay $200 and costs.

WORK THE REMEDY

Chief Beavers, of the Atlanta police department, is to be commended for the order he has issued to his patrolmen "to be on the lookout for negro loiterers," and whenever one is found, to see to it that he either gets a job or goes to jail.

But the order should go farther than that, and include all able-bodied citizens, regardless of color, because idleness is one thing which should not be tolerated or condoned.

"There is no cure-all for crime," says Richard Spillane, in an article on "Crime and its Cure," that appeared in a recent issue of Commerce and Finance, "but the nearest approach to a remedy is work."

He points out that the whole country seems to be passing through what the police term a "wave of crime;" and he attributes it largely to idleness and the leniency of the authorities of the law in dealing with those who are without employment at a time when the whole world is in need, as never before, of the products of honest toil.

He is right in this, as he is also when he declares that "for the chronic idler and loafer no decent man has anything but contempt!"

Mr. Spillane calls attention to what St. Louis is doing to stamp out crime, and commends to every police department in the country the policy that city has adopted, and which, he says, is bringing splendid results.

"Out in St. Louis," he says, "the authorities have taken drastic action to check law breaking in that city. It has had its share or more of highwaymen, burglary, sneak thievery, murder, etc. It wants it stopped and it has gone to work to stop it in a way that commands notice.

"The chief of police has issued orders that all loafers, idlers and persons unwilling to work shall be arrested and arraigned as suspicious characters. The courts, it is assumed, will send them to the workhouse or put them to tasks mending county roads or such. Day after day the hunt for loafers is to be continued until idling in St. Louis ends. Meanwhile every professional thief, gunman or known lawbreaker is to be haled to court and made to understand that he cannot remain in St. Louis and be free to walk the streets.

"Day and night the search for loafers and lawbreakers is to be continued until the city is rid of them.

"Meanwhile a corps of men will watch on every road and principal thoroughfares of the city late at night and stop every automobile and make the occupants account for themselves. Any automobilist who cannot explain satisfactorily why he is abroad will be taken to a police station."

As Mr. Spillane makes plain, no respectable citizen would or can take offense at such action, because it is for the protection of all against a criminal class that is a menace to decent society.

The police department of Atlanta it goes without saying, would ceive only praise from every abiding citizen who is depe upon it for protection against

GETTING AT THE CAUSE.

Homicide statistics for 1916 appearing in an article by Frederick L. Hoffman in The Spectator show five southern cities leading in the number of murders committed per 100,000 population in American cities, with Atlanta taking second place.

On the face of it, these figures give Atlanta a bad appearance in comparison with other cities, but the explanation is simple enough.

If these statistics were confined to the white population in their reckoning the showing of Atlanta, Georgia and the south generally would not differ greatly from that of other cities or other states the country over.

Unfortunately, though, they, like our mortality statistics, are made up from the records of the population as a whole, negroes and whites alike being considered. It is a well-known fact that the death rate among negroes is much larger than that among white people simply because one of the inherent characteristics of the colored race is its comparative disregard of fundamental sanitation and hygienic rules and precautions, and that negroes as a race will not pay the attention that white people pay to the minor diseases of infants and children. They will not take precautionary care of their health, neither from the standpoint of physical ailments nor of sanitation. Consequently, when a negro child contracts even a common and comparatively trivial disease its chances for recovery are greatly below those of a white child with the same complaint.

And in the matter of murders: Atlanta as a whole suffers from statistical comparison with other cities, yet the fact remains that most of the murders committed here were committed by negroes against members of their own race. The statistics simply show that so many men and women were murdered during a specified period, but they do not differentiate between the black race and the white race.

Also, there can be no doubt that among the negroes human life is not regarded with the same degree of sacredness or even consideration that it is by white people. It is generally regarded too lightly, for that matter, even among the members of the white race, or there would be far fewer murders of any character; but that is true the country over, no more so in the south or in Atlanta than elsewhere.

Indeed, the standard in this respect, irrespective of geography or of race or color, is low enough! But it is infinitely worse among the negroes, when the races are considered separately.

And the whole south, whites as well as blacks, is suffering from it.

It very often happens that a negro who wouldn't dare kill a white man, when in the heat of passion or with a drink of liquor in his stomach, and with a razor in his pocket, will unceremoniously cut the throat of a member of his own race.

All of which, in the record of murders, counts against the south as a whole.

That is one reason why Atlanta, like most other southern cities, is moving today toward elevating the standard of citizenship among the negroes. That is why southern cities are lending every encouragement toward the establishment of good-citizenship workshops, such as the negro Y. M. C. A. building now under construction and about to be completed in Atlanta!

A higher standard of citizenship among the negroes will count to the credit of the population in its entirety, white as well as black; and one institution that makes for the moral betterment of any class or portion of the community has a beneficent effect upon all—precisely as "one drop of leaven leaveneth the whole loaf!"

White Women In City Jail and Negro Man Carries Key To Cell

Housewives League Is Indignant At Prison Conditions In Portsmouth

Locked behind the bars of the city jail are two white girls and a negro man carries the key to the cell. There are also in the city prison two white boys, one thirteen and the other fifteen years old, who must come in daily contact with the hardened criminals, while they are waiting for the law to take its course.

Such is the charge made by the Portsmouth Housewives' League, in a report that body has just submitted. The charge is verified by Religious Secretary Capshaw of the Y. M. C. A.

The women of the housewives league are indignant that such a condition should be allowed to exist. It is unbelievable, they say, that in the state of Virginia two white girls should be under lock and key with a negro practically acting as their jail keeper. "In the name of common humanity and decency for which we stand," says the report. "In the name of democracy of which we boast, why does Ports mouth permit this outrage? Who is responsible?"

The women of Portsmouth who are members of the league are determined to take it up with the city authorities next. But they don't intend having its protest laid upon the council table to be snowed under—not if the good people of the city will uphold us. The motto of the league is a square deal to all."

It is stated that the religious secretary of the Y. M. C. A. found that the two white girls were imprisoned with drunken negro women. He succeeded in having the white women placed in a separate cell, but the key of the latter was carried by a negro man.

According to the statement, these white women have not even been convicted, but are being held for trial. One of these women is awaiting trial on the charge of bigamy.

It is alleged that she married again, believing that her first husband had been killed in the war. She has a small child.

At least jails are not nice places to stay in, but the jail birds have a better right to self-respect than the guy who crawls on the "V" loan.

THE PROBLEM OF LAWLESSNESS.

Lawlessness and police protection present an acute problem that is ever present in our cities. If we listen to the New York editors in their criticisms of the New York police department upon the outbreak of a new crime wave, we should conclude that New York is the most lawless city in America; if we listened to Chicago, San Francisco, St. Louis or Pittsburg editors we should conclude that each of these cities in its turn is the most lawless community in America.

Perhaps one great city is not much more lawless over a period of years than another. Yet it is startling to read this declaration in the Washington Herald:

"Today Washington ranks as the most lawless city in the United States."

That is an unqualified declaration regarding the capital of the Republic, and by a responsible newspaper.

Frequent instances of crimes of violence in Washington lead the Herald to say:

"It is the duty of Congress to investigate without delay the Metropolitan Police Department. There is something wrong. * * * Many criminals have escaped in the past half year. Crimes will continue to escape until there is a Congressional investigation which will remedy an inadequately administered and undermanned police department."

For several months the Police Department of New York has been involved in scandal. A large number of murders and peculiarly bold and alarming highway robberies and burglaries have been committed and few of the criminals have been apprehended. Some of the New York papers are attacking the city administration with great vigor. The Chicago crime wave is familiar to all. Chicago's "vice crusades" come with tiresome frequency, seemingly accomplishing little.

We are an idealistic people, but sometimes it is much to be feared that we are a lawless people.

EXCELLENT ADVICE.

To the Editor The Birmingham News:

In your editorial of Dec. 26 you struck the keynote in the race question which is now at issue, and I hope you will sound it again and again, until you arouse the active interest of the leaders of your race.

Our best thinking people have not hesitated in expressing the position of the better class of negroes in this matter, and we realize that a few sincere words on your side will mould a lasting sentiment that will be of untold benefit to us as a race.

During one of the last Liberty Loan drives, in a parade in which the negroes took part, a certain feeling pervaded, of which they were very observant, even though they did not discuss it broadly, as might have been expected. All along the line of march the negro section was applauded vigorously and sincerely, and the police would not allow any passing of lines until the last person had passed. Straws show which way the wind blows, and these little things made us believe that someone, somewhere, had said something to our credit concerning the drive, and had suggested that we be shown this mark of appreciation, for which we were accordingly grateful, and as a result of which we accordingly bought bonds, as statistics will show.

We do not for an instant seek to shield the worthless criminal; if he offends let him be punished; but we do suggest that if more serious attention be given to the worth-while negro, the worthless class will eventually of their own accord fall in line in order to receive the same recognition. We have no desire for social equality or special favors—only right and justice for those who deserve it.

Will not a few of our strong Southern white leaders have the courage of their convictions and repeat again and again in the South the few words necessary to mould the sentiment which will render the dear old Southland safe and desirable to the deserving negro?

ODESSA M'KENNEY,
Principal Muscoda Negro Sch

GRAFT INDICATED IN GIRLS' FUND

SPECIAL INVESTIGATION S MADE AND BOTH PERSONS MAKE STATEMENTS—PUBLC IS AROUSED.

By W. L. Porter.

The Birmingham Reporter

AFFIDAVIT IN DOZIER CHECK MATTER.

1-18-19

State of Alabama,
Jefferson County.

Before me, N. B. Young, Jr., a Notary Public in and for said county, personally appeared Maggie Jones ,who being duly sworn, deposes and says that Bessie Jones, her daughter, was responsible for the letter written to Dr. O. T. Dozier, thanking him for the ten dollar ($10.00) check sent her, and that the said ten dollars had not been reecived by her or my daughter, nor do I know anything of the letter published in The Voice of The People of December 21, 1918, to Dr. O. T. Dozier, reported as coming from me. Furthermore, Dr. J. H. Kelly informed me that the said check would be returned to Dr. O. T. Dozier, and I have received up to date $50.00 of the funds collected for [illegible]er.

(Signed) MAGGIE JONES.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of December, 1918.
(Signed) N. B. YOUNG, Jr.,
Notary Public.

Persistent annoyance to this publication in regard to the funds being raised to contribute to the support and education of Miss Bessie Jones 516 S. 14th street, who was some weeks ago put in jail and placed in an embarrassing position, caused a thorough investigation to be made concerning it, which afterwards, left as dark a cloud hanging over the situation as was over it before.

Information placed on file in this office shows that Mrs. Jones wrote a letter to Dr. C. T. Dozier, thanking him for ten dollars she had been informed was contributed by him, but stating that she had not received it, and ,according to a statement made by the girl's mother, some investigation must have been made by Dr. Dozier, as she states: Dr. Kelly who had the work in hand, came to her and told her that she had knocked her daughter out of a schooling and herself out of a lot of money.

An interview was also gleaned from Dr. Kelly, who talked freely on the subject, and said that he had given the girl's mother $50 which was ten dollars more than was paid the bondsmen, and that he had tried his best to put the girl in school, but for some cause her mother had not sent her.

He stated further that tags to the amount of 25,000 had been printed and were being sold for ten cents each.

The tag has the girl's face on on side and a brief history on the other and the Doctor says that he intended raising funds, not only for this girl but to have on hand to help other girls who may need such help in the future, and to this part of the statement, Mrs. Maggie Jones, mother of the girl, states that she knew nothing of the fact that tags were to be printed and sold of her daughter as has been, and is being done, and does not think it fair that her child be used in this way.

It is understood that these tags are for sale at a number of churches throughout the Birmingham District.

A written statement on file in this office shows that fifty dollars was paid the girl's mother, and that the payments totaling this amount were rendered on six different occasions, and are as follows: $8.00, $5.00, $4.00, $5.00, $20.00, $8.00, until the amount of fifty dollars was paid. A part of her statement follows:

"A man was with Dr. Kelly when he gave me the check for the last $8.00, and the check was written with a pencil and as I was afraid to try to cash it I sent Bessie to him to have him cash it; he took the check and sent me $3.00 in money, and about a week later when I sent Bessie to ask him for the remainder of it he said he would not give it to her because she asked him for it and so I had to wait about five more days before I got it.

Dr. Kelly came to see me Monday, January 13th, 1919, and asked me if I had sent Bessie to school today as he had told me to do. I told him no, that I wanted her to go off to school. He then told me to put her in school if she didn't stay but one or two days to make his word true, and if I would do this he had $8.00 or $10.00 more to give me.

He told me also to let him know what she needed but I told him I didn't think I had to let him know of every thing she needed."

There is a serious question among

Incomplete clipping